

§ 24.23 Fees for processing merchandise.

(a) *Definitions.* The following definitions apply for the purposes of this section:

(1) *Centralized hub facility.* A *centralized hub facility* is a separate, unique, single purpose facility normally operating outside of CBP operating hours approved by the port director for entry filing, examination, and release of express consignment shipments, as provided for in part 128 of this chapter on July 30, 1990.

(2) *Entered or released.* Merchandise is *entered or released* if the merchandise is:

(i) Released under a special permit for immediate delivery under 19 U.S.C. 1448(b);

(ii) Entered or released from CBP custody under 19 U.S.C. 1484(a)(1)(A); or

(iii) Withdrawn from warehouse for consumption.

(3) *Express consignment carrier facility.* An *express consignment carrier facility* is a separate or shared specialized facility approved by the port director solely for the examination and release of express consignment shipments, as provided for in part 128 of this chapter on July 30, 1990.

(4) *Manual entry or release.* Any reference to a *manual* formal or informal entry or release shall not include:

(i) Any formal or informal entry or release filed by an importer or broker who is operational for cargo release through the Automated Broker Interface (ABI) of the CBP Automated Commercial System (ACS) at any port within the United States;

(ii) Any formal or informal entry or release filed at a port where cargo selectivity is not fully implemented if filed by an importer or broker who is operational for ABI entry summary; or

(iii) Any informal entry or any Line Release filed at a port where cargo selectivity is fully implemented if filed by an importer or broker who is operational for ABI entry summary.

(5) *Small airport or other facility.* A *small airport or other facility* is any airport or other facility which has been designated as a user fee facility under 19 U.S.C. 58b and at which more than 25,000 informal entries were processed during the preceding fiscal year.

(b) *Fees* —(1) *Formal entry or release* —(i) *Ad valorem fee* —(A) *General.* Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, merchandise that is formally entered or released is subject to the payment to CBP of an *ad valorem* fee of 0.21 percent. The 0.21 *ad valorem* fee is due and payable to CBP by the importer of record of the merchandise at the time of presentation of the entry summary and is based on the value of the merchandise as determined under 19 U.S.C. 1401a. In the case of an express consignment carrier facility or centralized hub facility, each shipment covered by an individual air waybill or bill of lading that is formally entered and valued at \$2,000 or less is subject to a \$1.00 per individual air waybill or bill of lading fee and, if applicable, to the 0.21 percent *ad valorem* fee in accordance with paragraph (b)(4) of this section.

(B) *Maximum and minimum fees.* Subject to the provisions of paragraphs (b)(1)(ii) and (d) of this section relating to the surcharge and to aggregation of the *ad valorem* fee respectively, the *ad valorem* fee charged under paragraph (b)(1)(i)(A) of this section shall not exceed \$485 and shall not be less than \$25.

(ii) *Surcharge for manual entry or release.* In the case of any formal manual entry or release of merchandise, a surcharge of \$3 shall be assessed and shall be in addition to any *ad valorem* fee charged under paragraphs (b)(1)(i)(A) and (B) of this section.

(2) *Informal entry or release.* Except in the case of merchandise covered by paragraph (b)(3) or paragraph (b)(4) of this section, and except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) of this section, merchandise that is informally entered or released is subject to the payment to CBP of a fee of:

- (i) \$2 if the entry or release is automated and not prepared by CBP personnel;
- (ii) \$6 if the entry or release is manual and not prepared by CBP personnel; or
- (iii) \$9 if the entry or release, whether automated or manual, is prepared by CBP personnel.

(3) *Small airport or other facility.* With respect to the processing of letters, documents, records, shipments, merchandise, or any other item that is valued at \$2,000 or less, or any higher amount prescribed for purposes of informal entry in §143.21 of this chapter, a small airport or other facility must pay to CBP an amount equal to the reimbursement (including overtime) which the facility is required to make during the fiscal year under §24.17.

(4) *Express consignment carrier and centralized hub facilities.* Each carrier or operator using an express consignment carrier facility or a centralized hub facility must pay to CBP a fee in the amount of \$1.00 per individual air waybill or individual bill of lading for the processing of airway bills for shipments arriving in the U.S. In addition, if merchandise is formally entered and valued at \$2,000 or less, the importer of record must pay to CBP the *ad valorem* fee specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, if applicable. An individual air waybill or individual bill of lading is the individual document issued by the carrier or operator for transporting and/or tracking an individual item, letter, package, envelope, record, document, or shipment. An individual air waybill is the bill at the lowest level, and is not a master bill or other consolidated document. An individual air waybill or bill of lading is a bill representing an individual shipment that has its own unique bill number and tracking number, where the shipment is assigned to a single ultimate consignee, and no lower bill unit exists. Payment must be made to CBP on a quarterly basis and must cover the individual fees for all subject transactions that occurred during a calendar quarter. The following additional requirements and conditions apply to each quarterly payment made under this section:

(i) The quarterly payment must conform to the requirements of §24.1, must be mailed to Customs and Border Protection, Revenue Division/Attention: Reimbursables, 6650 Telecom Drive, Suite 100, Indianapolis, Indiana 46278, and must be received by CBP no later than the last day of the month that follows the close of the calendar quarter to which the payment relates.

(ii) The following information must be included with the quarterly payment:

(A) The identity of the calendar quarter to which the payment relates;

(B) The identity of the facility for which the payment is made and the port code that applies to that location and, if the payment covers multiple facilities, the identity of each facility and its port code and the portion of the payment that pertains to each port code; and

(C) The total number of individual air waybills and individual bills of lading covered by the payment, and a breakdown of that total for each facility covered by the payment according to the number covered by formal entry procedures, the number covered by informal entry procedures specified in §§128.24(e) and 143.23(j) of this chapter, and the number covered by other informal entry procedures.

(iii) Overpayments or underpayments may be accounted for by an explanation in, and adjustment of, the next due quarterly payment to CBP. In the case of an overpayment or underpayment that is not accounted for by an adjustment of the next due quarterly payment to CBP, the following procedures apply:

(A) In the case of an overpayment, the carrier or operator may request a refund by writing to Customs and Border Protection, Revenue Division/Attention: Reimbursables, 6650 Telecom Drive, Suite 100, Indianapolis, Indiana 46278. The refund request must specify the grounds for the refund and must be received by CBP within one year of the date the fee for which the refund is sought was paid to CBP; and

(B) In the case of an underpayment, interest will accrue on the amount not paid from the date payment was initially due to the date that payment to CBP is made.

(iv) The underpayment or failure of a carrier or operator using an express consignment carrier facility or a centralized hub facility to pay all applicable fees owed to CBP pursuant to paragraph (b)(4) of this section

may result in the assessment of penalties under 19 U.S.C. 1592, liquidated damages, and any other action authorized by law.