



March 13, 2020



MEMBER ALERT

Hi @@first_name@@,

As a service to the trade community, we are sending this Alert to both AAEI members and non-members to convey the latest information on COVID-19 affecting international trade operations and global supply chains, and to provide feedback to CBP through your responses to the survey below. If you want to receive Member Alerts, my weekly CEO Corner e-mail and other benefits, we invite you to [join AAEI](#).

Recap Summary

In case you have not been following the U.S. Government's actions on COVID-19 (perhaps because you have been fixated on the stock market), here is a summary of actions taken thus far:

- Today, the President declared a [national emergency](#) to release additional funds to state and local governments dealing with the impact of COVID-19. (See, [Presidential Proclamation on national emergency on COVID-19](#).) Additionally, the Administration is partnering with the private sector labs and companies (BD, CVS, Google, Roche, Target, Wal-Mart) to build capacity, [expand and speed up testing](#), and manufacture drugs.

- On March 11, 2020, President Trump gave a [speech](#) outlining the actions the Administration is taking to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and manage outbreaks. Among the most significant actions is the suspension of travel with Europe for 30 days effective 12:00 midnight on March 13, 2020. **Most importantly, the travel suspension with the EU does not apply to cargo from the EU.**
- The President also issued [Proclamation 9993](#) outlining the actions announced in his speech.
- Here is a list of COVID-19 related Presidential actions:
 - [Proclamation 9992](#): Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Certain Additional Persons Who Pose a Risk of Transmitting 2019 Novel Coronavirus
 - [Proclamation 9984](#): Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Persons Who Pose a Risk of Transmitting 2019 Novel Coronavirus and Other Appropriate Measures To Address This Risk

CBP Teleconference

Today, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) held an industry teleconference to discuss COVID-19. CBP made the following points:

- Presidential Proclamations apply to passengers not cargo.
- There are no additional screening requirements for cargo because medical professionals have advised that COVID-19 is transmitted by people not cargo.
- CBP staffing is not currently affected by COVID-19, but as more schools close CBP trade officers will telecommute. However, CBP does not expect any reduction in service.
- CBP staffing at ports has not diminished, but if an officer has an encounter with a person showing COVID-19 symptoms, that officer is quarantined. Adjustments will be made on case-by-case basis.
- Trade programs such as USMCA implementation, the 321 pilot, type 86 pilot, are all moving forward and not impacted by COVID-19.
- CBP is monitoring cargo flows and they have seen declines in air cargo and mail shipments.
- MARAD and the Coast Guard have issued guidelines for entry of crews. Air and sea crews are being funneled into 13 designated airports for additional screening.
- Any medical products granted an exclusion by USTR from section 301 tariffs should be entered through ACE without additional duties. (Some brokers reported rejected entries and CBP will rectify this issue promptly.)

AAEI raised the issue of whether CBP will waive 15-day entry filing deadlines and cancel liquidated damages for late filing due to companies reducing hours or shutting down. CBP has requested that we provide additional data so they can consider changes to the requirements and so we are asking companies to complete the survey below.

AAEI Survey

In order to provide CBP and U.S. policymakers with data concerning the impact of COVID-19 on international trade operations and global supply chains, we are asking companies complete the survey by clicking the link for [AAEI COVID-19 Survey](#). The survey is comprised of 11 questions.

We will be sending out the survey every week for the next month or so and we ask you to participate **every week** so we can track changes to companies' trade operations and global supply chains. Please note that we will share aggregate data with U.S. government officials, but we will not share company information or responses.

Thank you for your participation.

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