

Complete Manifest Information Can Reduce Processing Time for Tractor Trailers at the U.S. Border

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Champlain NY recently released an Information Notice to remind carriers and importers that inward cargo manifests must include license plate numbers for both the tractor and the trailer. CBP has stated that the majority of manifests contain the trailer's plate number. Where manifests lack this information, the CBP officer must obtain the trailer's license plate number causing increased processing time for tractor trailers at the truck booth. The CBP information notice is reprinted below.

Subject: Trailer License Plate Numbers

Distribution: Filers, importers, carriers and other interested parties

This notice is to enlist the support of the trade community in our ongoing efforts to balance security requirements with facilitation of trade. In order to minimize the processing time for tractor trailers at the truck booth, it will be extremely beneficial if the trailer license plate number is annotated on the manifest. The majority of manifests currently have the trailer plate number indicated on them. For those that don't, the time it takes for the officer in the truck booth to obtain the trailer plate number means additional delay in the clearance of the truck. While the additional processing time per truck is not substantial, the cumulative effect can cause traffic to back up over time.

To avoid this potential problem, we ask that you disseminate this notice to your clients and to the carrier community. By implementing the practice of including trailer plate numbers on every manifest, carriers will assist the mission of Customs and Border Protection, while at the same time minimizing delays for their clients and drivers.

Should you have any questions in this regard, please contact Cargo Chief Erik Hipko at 518-298-8319, or any cargo supervisor.

Robert Blanchard
Assistant Port Director

Note: This Notice is provided for the convenience of the public, but due to the nature of this medium, only the latest printed version of a law, regulation or **Federal Register** notice should be considered official. Reliance on this information may *not* be considered exercise of reasonable care

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