

**FDA'S MARCS/OASIS COMPUTER SYSTEM DOWN FOR MAINTENANCE  
ON 12/3/11**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration(FDA) sent notification today that there will be a scheduled OASIS/MARCS downtime on Saturday December 03, 2011. It is starting at approximately 02:30am, and is not anticipated to be back up until 11:30am EST. As a result, FDA will be operating under the Prior Notice Scenario 2 Contingency. During the periods when OASIS/MARCS is down ACS, PNSI and the link between ACS and OASIS will be operational. However, the OASIS downtime will prevent submitters who filed via ABI from receiving Prior Notice Confirmation and would prevent CBP from auto-checking the Prior Notice Confirmation for ABI filers if Prior Notice has not already been submitted, ABI filers may decide to wait out the OASIS Downtime if they determine that the timeliness of Prior Notice will be adversely affected. Filers who choose this option should understand that they remain responsible under Section 801(M) of the Act under the Prior Notice Final Rule for filing timely Prior Notice. ABI transmissions received by FDA during the downtime will be queued and processed once the maintenance is completed. Prior notice(PN) confirmation numbers will not be transmitted back to filers during the downtime.

Alternatively, filers may submit prior Notice via PNSI, in which case the Prior Notice confirmation number must accompany the article of food(21 CFR 1.279(G)). If Prior Notice is submitted through PNSI, FDA and CBP recommend that the PNSI confirmation page, including the Prior Notice confirmation number and the time stamp, be presented to CBP officers for cargo release. If the PNSI confirmation page is not presented, this may delay cargo release while the CBP officer, without being able to access OASIS, contacts FDA for verification of the Prior Notice confirmation number(s) and time of submission.

If Prior Notice has already been submitted via ABI/ACS prior to the interface outage, and confirmation has already been received, the submitter may proceed with Prior Notice using the standard process. If Prior Notice has already been submitted via ABI/ACE and confirmation has not been received prior to the interface outage, FDA and CBP recommend that, rather than resubmitting via PNSI, submitters should provide to CBP Officers, at the time of cargo release, an endorsed(signed)copy of the ABI transmission or some other evidence adequate to show that Prior Notice has been submitted via ABI/ACS. If you have any questions during this downtime, please contact the FDA's Prior Notice Center at (866)521-2297.

The *NGJ International Trade Update* provides information obtained from third parties, primarily government, and advice based on that information. Norman G. Jensen Inc. (NGJ) has not verified the accuracy of the information nor is it capable of verifying the accuracy of the information. As a consequence, NGJ will not be liable for injury suffered as a result of reliance on the information or the recommendations provided in the *NGJ International Trade Update*.

---

If you have questions, no longer wish to receive these notices via fax, or wish to receive these notices via e-mail, contact NGJ's Trade/Compliance Services Department at: [compliance.us@ngjensen.com](mailto:compliance.us@ngjensen.com)

Visit our website at [www.ngjensen.com](http://www.ngjensen.com)

*Norman G. Jensen, Inc. is a validated participant in the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT).*