

paper SED to the carrier. When transmitting export information electronically, the AES filers must comply with the data transmission procedures determined by Customs and the Census Bureau (See §30.62 for AES certification, qualifications, and standards).

(d) *General responsibilities of exporters, filing agents, and sea carriers*—(1) *Exporter and authorized filing agent responsibilities*. The exporter and/or their authorized agents, certified for AES filing, are responsible for:

(i) Transmitting complete and accurate information to the AES (see §30.4 (a) and §30.7 (d)(1), (2), and (e) for a delineation of responsibilities of exporters and authorized forwarding agents);

(ii) Transmitting information to the AES in a timely manner in accordance with the provisions and requirements contained in this subpart;

(iii) Responding to messages identified as fatal error, warning, verify, or reminder generated by AES in accordance with the provisions contained in this subpart;

(iv) Providing the exporting carrier with the required exemption statements or citations when an item or shipment is exempt from SED filing requirements in accordance with provisions contained in this subpart;

(v) Transmitting corrections or cancellations to information transmitted to the AES as soon as the need for such changes is determined in accordance with provisions contained in this subpart; and

(vi) Maintaining all necessary and proper documentation related to the AES export transaction in accordance with provisions contained in this subpart.

(2) *Sea carrier responsibilities*. The exporting sea carrier also is responsible for transmitting timely, accurate, and complete manifests and bills of lading information to AES for all cargo being shipped. The exporting sea carrier is also responsible for transmitting booking, receipt of booking, departure, and manifest messages to AES. Customs and Census Bureau officials, with written agreement of the exporting sea carrier, can provide for alternative methods of filing manifest and SED information to that found in this Subpart. For exporting carrier responsibilities,

see Subpart B, of this part, General Requirements—Exporting Carriers. For electronic filing of manifest information using the AES, see 19 CFR 4.76, *Procedures and responsibilities for electronic filing of sea manifests through AES*.

§ 30.61 Electronic filing options.

As an alternative to filing paper Shipper's Export Declaration forms (Option 1), three electronic filing options for transmitting shipper's export information are available to exporters or their authorized filing agents. Two of the electronic filing options (Options 3 and 4) take into account that complete information concerning export shipments is not always available at the time of shipment. The available AES electronic filing options are as follows:

(a) *AES with full information transmitted prior to exportation (Option 2)*. Option 2 provides for the electronic filing of *all* information required for exports to AES prior to exportation (see §30.63 for information required to be reported electronically). Full predeparture information is always required to be transmitted to AES for the following specific types of shipments:

(1) Used self-propelled vehicles (except those shipped between the United States and Puerto Rico) as defined in 19 CFR 192.1

(2) Essential and precursor chemicals requiring a permit from the Drug Enforcement Administration;

(3) Shipments defined as “sensitive” by Executive Order; and

(4) Shipments where full export information is required prior to exportation by a federal government agency.

(b) *AES with partial information transmitted prior to exportation (Option 3)*. Option 3 provides for the electronic filing of *specified* data elements to the AES prior to exportation (see Appendix B of this part for a list of specified data elements). Filing Option 3 is available for all methods of transportation. Used self-propelled vehicles shipped between the United States and Puerto Rico may be shipped using filing Option 3. Option 3 is designed for those shipments for which full data are not available prior to exportation. No prior approval from

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the Census Bureau or Customs is required for certified AES filers to use Option 3. However, full predeparture information must be transmitted to the AES for certain specified transactions (as specified in Option 2). For shipments that require an export license, the exporter must file using Option 2 or 3, unless the licensing agency specifically approves the exporter for Option 4 filing for the licensed shipment under its jurisdiction. Where partial information is provided under Option 3, complete export information must be transmitted as soon as it is known, but no later than five (5) working days from the date of exportation. The exporter or their authorized filing agent must provide the exporting carrier with a unique shipment reference number prior to exportation.

(c) *AES with no information transmitted prior to exportation (Option 4).* Option 4 is only available for approved exporters and requires *no* export information to be transmitted electronically using AES prior to exportation. For approved Option 4 filers, all shipments (other than those requiring an export license, unless specifically approved by the licensing agency for Option 4 filing, and those specifically required under electronic filing Options 2 or 3) by all methods of transportation may be exported with no information transmitted prior to exportation. Used self-propelled vehicles, shipped between the United States and Puerto Rico, by an Option 4 approved exporter, may be shipped using filing Option 4. Certified AES authorized filing agents or service centers may transmit information post departure on behalf of approved Option 4 exporters. All exporters filing a Letter of Intent for Option 4 filing privileges will be cleared through a formal review process by Customs, the Census Bureau, and other federal government agencies participating in the AES (partnership agencies) in accordance with provisions contained in §30.62. Where exportation is made with no prior AES filing, complete export information should be transmitted as soon as it is known, but no later than ten (10) working days from the date of exportation. The exporter or their authorized agent must provide the exporting carrier with the exporter's Op-

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tion 4 AES identification number prior to exportation.

§ 30.62 AES Certification, qualifications, and standards.

(a) *AES certification process.* Certification for AES filing will apply to any exporter, authorized forwarding agent, carrier, non-vessel operating common carriers (NVOCC), consolidator, port authority, software vendor, or service center transmitting export information electronically using the AES. Applicants interested in AES filing must submit a Letter of Intent to the Census Bureau in accordance with the provisions contained in §30.60. Customs and the Census Bureau will assign client representatives to work with the applicant to prepare them for AES certification. The AES applicant must perform an initial two-part communication test to ascertain whether the applicant's system is capable of both transmitting data to and receiving data from the AES. The applicant must demonstrate specific system application capabilities. The capability to correctly handle these system applications is the prerequisite to certification for participation in the AES. The applicant must successfully transmit the AES certification test. Assistance is provided by the Customs' and Census Bureau's client representatives during certification testing. These representatives make the sole determination as to whether or not the applicant qualifies for certification. Upon successful completion of certification testing, the applicant's status is moved from testing mode to operational mode. Upon certification, the filer will be required to maintain an acceptable level of performance in AES filings. The certified AES filer may be required to repeat the certification testing process at any time to ensure that operational standards for quality and volume of data are maintained.

(1) *Filing agent certification.* Once an authorized filing agent has successfully completed the certification process, the exporter(s) using that agent need no further AES certification of their own. The certified filing agent must have a properly executed power of attorney, a written authorization from the exporter, or a SED signed by the