December 15, 2021

Census Proposes New Country of Origin AES Filing Requirements

Dear Valued Customer,

On December 14, 2021, U.S. Census communicated that they are proposing a new country of origin data element requirement in the Automated Export System (AES) and has opened up a comment period for all interested parties to respond.   Specifically, Census is proposing to add a "conditional" data element, (country of origin), when foreign origin is selected in the "Foreign/Domestic Origin Indicator" field in AES. If the rule is adopted, U.S. exporters of foreign-produced commodities would be required to declare the specific country of origin for their item(s) via this data element in AES. This is a marked departure from the current requirement to only declare if an item is Domestic (D) or Foreign (F) produced in AES.

Census believes any updates/enhancements to computer and software systems should be able to be implemented in a 12 to 18 month period when/if the final rule is implemented. The proposed rule lists several questions for exporters to consider, including, but not limited to, timeframe to amend/update software and systems to adjust to the new requirements as well as any new business practices a company would need to implement to comply with the proposed requirement. The full notice from Census and the proposed rule can be reviewed at: https://www.regulations.gov/document/USBC-2021-0028-0001

Written comments for this proposed change (RIN 0607-AA59) must be received on or before February 14, 2022 and can be submitted via the Federal eRulemaking Portal (https://www.regulations.gov); or via email directly to gtmd.ftrnotices@census.gov (please include RIN 0607-AA59 in the subject line). Please note that all received comments will be part of the public record.

Thank you for being our Valued Customer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your C.H. Robinson commercial representative for further information.

Sincerely,
C.H. Robinson