



TRADE FACILITATION FOR THE COMPLIANT

Delivering Compliance, Demanding Fair Treatment: The Express Perspective

Logistics operations supporting international trade vary widely, but **express delivery is unique**.

Unlike other channels of trade, express carriers operate **proprietary, door-to-door networks** with compliance and reliability at our core.

Securing Trade, Leading in Compliance: The Express Advantage

Express delivery carriers **control the entire logistics chain**:

- Picking up shipments,
- Transporting them in secure vehicles and aircraft,
- Ensuring all necessary export and import formalities are completed, and
- Delivering directly to the addressee.

This seamless process ensures goods are **protected, traced, and delivered on time**—a commitment that depends entirely on strict compliance with global trade regulations and expedited treatment at the border.

Compliance: The Foundation of Express Delivery

Compliance isn't just a requirement for express carriers—it's the foundation of their business model.

- **Pioneers in Advance Electronic Data:** Express carriers lead the provision of detailed electronic shipment data to border authorities before arrival, ensuring transparency and efficiency.
- **Global Expertise:** As some of the world's largest customs brokers, express carriers have built advanced systems to meet and, in many cases, exceed regulatory standards.
- **End-to-end Control:** From pickup to delivery, shipments are secure, traceable, and managed with precision not seen elsewhere in the logistics industry.



International Agreements and Commitments

Global treaties like the **WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)** and national initiatives such as **Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programs** recognize that compliant operators should receive **expedited and simplified treatment** at borders. The TFA specifies precise requirements for expedited shipments, including:

- Advance electronic data sharing,
- Internal security measures and traceability,
- Dedicated Customs infrastructure and cost coverage, and
- Support for the collection of duties and taxes.

Express carriers already meet or exceed these criteria. Yet, these benefits are often applied inconsistently, leaving compliant operators to **compete with those who fail to meet the same standards.**

Rewarding High Standards: The Case for Differentiated Facilitation

Under these agreements, **facilitation benefits** should apply without any weight and value restrictions and be reserved for those who uphold the highest compliance standards. These benefits include:

1. *A de minimis* threshold under which no duty is paid,
2. Immediate release on the basis of a consolidated declaration that can be a manifest, waybill, cargo declaration or an inventory of such items,
3. Reduced documentation, data and inspections,
4. Rapid release times,
5. Deferred (i.e., account based) payments for duties and fees,
6. Reduced guarantees, securities or bonds that cover multiple imports over a period of time,
7. Single declarations for periodic imports and exports, and
8. On-premises clearance or clearance at authorized locations

Only those who meet rigorous requirements—such as express carriers—should receive these facilitation benefits.



Standing by Commitments

Governments have committed to fair and transparent trade practices under international treaties. Now, it's time to honor those commitments by:

- Recognizing operators like express carriers who deliver the highest compliance rates and maintain secure supply chains, and
- Enforcing standards rigorously to ensure that benefits are reserved **only** for those meeting these high benchmarks.

Express carriers have demonstrated their leadership in compliance, security, and facilitation. They have earned the right to receive differentiated treatment at borders.

This does not call for an uneven playing field. To the contrary, any operator who meets these standards should receive the corresponding benefits, regardless of ownership, nationality, mode of transportation, etc.

A Call to Action

Express Delivery Service providers lead the way in compliance. It's time they are treated as the leaders they are.

Governments must take decisive action to:

1. **Reward compliance:** Extend the facilitation measures promised under international agreements and national programs to operators who meet the requirements consistently.
2. **Enforce fairness:** Ensure operators that do not meet these requirements are denied the same benefits.
3. **Recognize leadership:** Express carriers deserve the highest facilitation measures due to their unmatched compliance and operational standards.

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