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CONTACT US

840 Tollgate Road • Elgin, IL 60123
Phone: 800-327-6392
Fax: 847-760-0005
www.bdginternational.com

E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

import@bdginternational.com
airfreight@bdginternational.com
ocean@bdginternational.com
domestic@bdginternational.com

BDG International Student Internships

BDG International is offering Internships to foreign or USA students. If you know of a student who desires to learn about international business, BDG may be able to provide a job opportunity for them.

The student is invited to send their resume (curriculum vitae) to Lisa V. Waller at lisaw@bdginternational.com for review.

CAFTA Countries

CAFTA opens, not only a new era in trade between the United States and its neighbors, but also new opportunities for U.S. companies and U.S. operations of foreign companies. Historically, the United States has been the main trading partner of each of the countries in the agreement—[Costa Rica](#), [the Dominican Republic](#), [El Salvador](#), [Guatemala](#), [Honduras](#), and [Nicaragua](#). U.S. government policy has been to grant these countries relatively open access to U.S. markets for their goods, while they protected their own markets with tariffs and other barriers. These tariffs and barriers prevented or severely restricted U.S. access to the markets in these countries for U.S. manufactured goods, agricultural products, professional services, and investments.

CAFTA immediately eliminates all tariffs on 80 percent of U.S. manufactured goods, with the remainder phased out over a few years. Importantly, the agreement is not limited to manufactured goods, but covers virtually every type of trade and commercial exchange between these countries and the United States. It also strengthens regulatory standards and environmental protections in Central America and the Dominican Republic and provides for independent, outside monitoring.

Puerto Rican Customs Procedures

General Arriving Procedures

- All shipments arriving in Puerto Rico must be processed through the Puerto Rico Excise Tax Office by the importing carrier (Airline or Maritime).
- The Bills of Lading are Taxable, Bonded or Exempt. If bonded or Exempt, the shipments may be recovered from the carrier.
- BDG's Agent in Puerto Rico is "Bonded" with the tax office and may recover the merchandise after the importing carrier has obtained approval to release the cargo.
- Consignees also are subject to the same tax status rules: Taxable, Bonded, or Exempt.
- Our agent cannot deliver until the final consignee's tax status is reported to customs.

Bonded or Exempt Consignee Procedures

- A Bonded consignee is those with manufacturing operations or who have applied for a bond and pay the taxes at a later date. Some factories have obtained tax exemptions for raw materials, machinery and parts.
- If the consignee is Bonded or Exempt the process is done electronically. The response from the tax office can vary from fifteen minutes to several hours.
- If the release is received the freight can be dispatched.
- If the release is not received a copy of the invoice needs to be presented to the tax office. This process may vary between one to several hours depending on the queue.

Taxable Freight or Consignees

- A manufacturing plant receiving freight not related to the manufacturing process is generally considered to be a taxable item.
- If the Consignee is not bonded or the merchandise is considered taxable the procedure is as follows.
- The declaration is first done electronically. The Tax office does not specifically state that an item is taxable. However they will let us know if an item has been released. If the release has not been received after approximately 3 hours it is then considered to be a Taxable item.
- Once we learn that the item is Taxable all commercial documents are then brought to the tax office along with a check for the duties.

Freight Subject for Inspection

- The Tax Office can select freight for inspection. Freight is selected at random or based on a discrepancy that has been noted.

Dispatch and Delivery

- All Shipments arriving into Puerto Rico require a minimum of one day handling before dispatch.
- BDG can provide same day RUSH delivery if requested. In this case BDG will e-mail all documents to our agent in Puerto Rico.

The following information is required for RUSH delivery:

- Invoice
- Contact Name
- Phone Number
- TAX ID Number (EIN Number) or Bond Number.

West Coast Weather Delays

The West Coast has been experiencing heavy rain fall throughout the Rocky Mountain Region. These rainfalls have contributed to a number of mudslides along major rail lines to West Coast Ports.

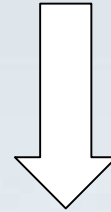
Import and Export ocean freight shipments via the West Coast have been affected. We are experiencing an average one-week delay in import freight. Export Ocean shipments have been rolling one week to the following vessel.

Hapag Lloyd Overweight Vessels.

We have learned that Hapag Lloyd has recently been experiencing overbooking issues on their vessels. Actual weights of containers have been higher than estimated resulting in the vessel mixing out weight limitations. Therefore many containers booked on the vessel have been rolling to the next vessel.

Australian / New Zealand Service

Learn about our Direct and Transshipment services to Australia and New Zealand on Page 4.





SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Australia / New Zealand Service Alert

BDG, International would like to announce new rates into Australia/New Zealand base ports.

Please contact the Ocean Export Team at ocean@bdginternational.com or via telephone at 847-760-0020 to learn more about this service.

Transit times via trans-ship service

- 47 days Chicago Ramp to Sydney
- 50 days Chicago Ramp to Brisbane
- 44 days Chicago Ramp to Melbourne
- 64 days Chicago Ramp to Auckland

Transit times via Direct service

- 28 days Chicago Ramp to Sydney
- 36 days Chicago Ramp to Brisbane
- 31 days Chicago Ramp to Melbourne
- 25 days Chicago Ramp to Auckland

Subject to Equipment Availability, custom exam expenses, THC and Duties. Shipper responsible for loading, blocking, bracing, weight limits. Written confirmation required for transportation and rate validity. All charges due within 21 days of invoice date.



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- domestic@bdginternational.com