

IMPORTING AND EXPORTING

TIME IS MONEY

10 TIPS TO AVOID BORDER DELAYS

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Importing and Exporting

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Livingston understands that receiving goods on time is critical to your business. Border delays are one of the biggest frustrations that importers face today. Here are 10 things that should help you to avoid border delays:

1 Ensure that your documents are complete

Incomplete documentation is one of the most common causes of delays. Typical errors include failure to complete all invoicing requirements, incomplete commercial invoice or incomplete documentation for other government agencies.

2 Make sure that your documents are correct

Inaccurate documentation is another common cause of delay. Typical errors include incorrect tariff numbers, incorrect country of origin information and inaccurate product descriptions.

3 Be certain that your documents are legible

It seems like such a simple thing, but many entries get delayed because the documents are illegible.

4 Arrange for your documents to arrive prior to the goods' arrival at the border

Timely documentation arrival helps ensure timely clearance.

5 Find a technology-based solution for submitting documents

There are a variety of options available, including EDI, SmartBorder® ShipperSide, and Livingston Insight® Docs. Each of these options automates data transmission, reducing errors in data integrity and timely delivery.



Find out how you can mitigate the frustrations – and costs – associated with having your goods delayed at the border.

6 Use a technology solution to verify that your entry is complete and accepted prior to your goods' arrival

Confirm this by checking your shipment's PAPS number, based on carrier code and bill of lading number.

7 Use a C-TPAT-approved carrier

A carrier approved by this key U.S. security program helps facilitate speedy entry.



8

Learn how to become a C-TPAT-approved importer

Your own registration and approval with C-TPAT will also help expedite your entries.

9

Ensure that goods can be easily associated with the corresponding paperwork

In some cases, CBP needs to easily locate goods in the truck, as listed on the invoice. If CBP cannot locate the goods, a delay could occur.

10

Partner with a customs broker who has a strong compliance reputation with CBP

Industry reputation definitely helps at the border. Look for a broker with a strong relationship with Customs authorities and a reputation for attention to detail to ensure your goods are processed and cleared quickly and efficiently.

Contact Livingston

Have questions or need help with your shipments? Contact your account executive, write to us at: simplify@livingstonintl.com or give us a call at **1-800-837-1063**

