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# TRADEFLOW® PRODUCT MANAGEMENT CENTRE

*Managing Commodity  
Information for Import  
Security Filing*

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The Safe Port Act of 2006 became law in the United States at the end of 2006. It calls for the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to require specific manifest and cargo data from importers and the carrier 24 hours prior to the vessel departure at the origin port. The requirement has been named within the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) as the Importer Security Filing (ISF) or 10+2.

One of the 10 data elements required by ISF is the commodity HS number. While many importers today strive to preclassify items before they arrive at destination, ISF will require knowledge of the commodity HS number 24 hours before loading at the origin port. Having a comprehensive classification compliance program in place before the paradigm shift will be crucial to minimize risk of supply chain delays. How well you manage the process to classify imports before they are ready to depart, and share that information securely with your trade partners, will have a large impact on your import compliance with respect to the Importer Security Filing.

## **Centralized System of Control**

Tradeflow's Product Management Centre is a web-based tool designed by Expeditors for use by customers globally. With Tradeflow, subscribers can:

- Centralize, securely capture and share information about the products they buy and sell
- Classify products for U.S. or 120 other countries and store such classification details for any country of import or export
- Collaborate with vendors, service providers, consultants and Customs Brokers
- Provide visibility to and/or distribute data to various consumers of this information

## **Efficient Content Management**

With the Tradeflow Product Management Centre, you can store commodity information on a country-by-country basis, and use the built-in HS validation tools to efficiently manage your products. This allows you to focus on those products that require immediate reclassification. The system facilitates management of changes at a country-level as the local government authorities release their updates. For those customers tracking HS codes for various countries, Tradeflow offers a flexible reporting tool to compare and map classifications at the 6-digit level across countries. All changes are tracked at a field-level with user identification and date/time stamp. This provides Tradeflow customers with a comprehensive audit trail for this change management process.

## **Quick Startup Process**

Tradeflow is hosted and fully supported by Expeditors, eliminating the need for internal Information Technology support. Data stored in applications such as Excel or Access can be easily uploaded into Tradeflow through the user interface to get clients up and running quickly. Integration with ERP or internal systems can also be achieved quickly using Tradeflow's standard integration formats. Training can be done on-line or in many cases, in-person training can be made available.

*For more information about Tradeflow's Product Management Centre, please contact your local Expeditors representative.*