

**Welcome to the latest edition of TT Talk, number 28 in the series.**

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**1. US Customs publish 24 Hour Rule**

The final version of the Customs rule requiring sea carriers to provide cargo manifests 24 hours prior to the loading of cargo at foreign ports for shipment to the United States was published in the Federal Register of 31 October 2002.

It will become effective 30 days from its date of publication, ie on December 2nd 2002. US Customs Commissioner Bonner regards the new rule as an essential element of the Container Security Initiative, as advance transmission of vessel cargo manifest information to US Customs will enable them to evaluate the terrorist risk of cargo containers.

It seems that the US Customs amended the draft regulation, to take into account some of the comments they received. For example, the final regulation exempts vessels carrying bulk cargo. Moreover, US Customs will not enforce penalties for 60 days after its effective entry into force.

The document also explains how confidentiality of manifest information will be protected.

The text of the final 24 hour rule is available on:

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2002\\_register&docid=02-27661-filed](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2002_register&docid=02-27661-filed)

**2. Conclusion**

We hope that you will have found the above items interesting. If you would like to have further information on any of them, or have any comments you would like to make, then e-mail the Editor at [tt.talk@ttclub.com](mailto:tt.talk@ttclub.com). We look forward to hearing from you.

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