



**Pipeline 04-31  
November 15, 2004**

**TO: Customs Brokers, Importers and Others Concerned**

**SUBJECT: CONSOLIDATED ENTRIES**

The procedure outlined below is offered as an alternative to the SPLIT-SHIPMENT option addressed in Pipeline 04-26 dated September 30, 2004.

Audit of items on recent discrepancy reports have revealed errors in preparation and submission of CONSOLIDATED ENTRY SUMMARIES. These errors often result in unwarranted liquidated damage cases that are time-consuming for both Customs and the importing community.

Please review your procedures to assure that the following requirements are being met:

**SUMMARY NUMBER** - The entry summary number must be unique. It must be different than the release numbers to be consolidated.

**ENTRY DATE** - The time elapsed between the first and last release may not exceed one week. The correct entry date in block 4 of the consolidated entry summary is the date of the *first release*.

**ENTRY SUMMARY SUBMISSION DUE** - Consolidated entry summaries must be submitted within ten (10) working days of the entry date.

**FLAGGING ENTRIES** - All consolidated entries must be identified. The entry number in Block 1 of the CF-7501 must be followed by the letter "C" (for consolidated). The entry release numbers should generally be shown in block 9 of the CF-7501. Each entry should be identified separately on the entry summary. Please attach a flag to the top of the CF-7501 with the words "CONSOLIDATED ENTRY" visible.

**ABI BROKERS** - ABI brokers should be transmitting the "C" (for consolidated) through ABI. They should also transmit the release numbers. If this is done correctly, the releases are automatically closed when the collection is processed and individual releases will not appear on the late report. *ABI brokers should never transmit CF-7501 data on a*

*release number*. If this occurs, the release cannot be closed. ABI brokers should delete CF-7501 data transmitted in error on consolidated releases.

By following these guidelines, most problems occurring during processing of consolidated entries will be avoided.

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