



U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection

**Pipeline 04-33  
November 23, 2004**

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

**SUBJECT: AMS–Stamped Air Waybills to Cease**

Effective November 22, 2004, CBP Agriculture Chicago will no longer stamp air waybills for holds or releases. Since Air AMS has been fully implemented and all carriers are using AMS for holds/releases, the last day for manually stamped air waybills was 11/21/2004.

Upon arrival of the plane, the General Declaration (CBP Form 7507) must be presented to CBP at T5 at once. CBP Officers will no longer routinely request hard copies of the air cargo manifest (CBP Form 7509) or the attached air waybills when the information has been presented in the CBP-approved electronic system. Therefore, on air waybills with CBP Agriculture holds, only the documentation that has not been electronically transmitted must be presented. Examples of these documents include original PhytoSanitary Certificates for vegetables and cut flowers, Veterinary Certificates for animal products, and documentation to clear medical, pharmaceutical, and biological shipments. These documents must be annotated with identifying information, such as the carrier and the air waybill number. Filers may wish to attach a copy of the air waybill to the documentation *for identification purposes only* instead of annotating the documents, but this copy is not required.

CBP Agriculture Chicago will also initiate holds in AMS for items requiring USDA-APHIS-Veterinary Services (VS) review, such as cryogenic tanks and hatching eggs. When VS has approved the freight, they will notify CBP who will remove the hold.

Please refer any questions to Supervisory Agriculture Specialist Bart Yates at 847-298-3136 ext. 3.

Richard Roster  
Port Director