

Free and Secure Trade (FAST)

Importer Application Process for Importing Into Canada

Available on-line only.

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FAST – Importer application process

The Free And Secure Trade (FAST) program is the result of the Smart Border Declaration – 30-Point Action Plan, and is a harmonized program involving Canada and the United States.

Both countries are co-operating in this program to simplify border crossing for pre-approved low-risk importers, highway carriers, and commercial drivers.

Importers wanting to import goods **into the United States** under the FAST program must:

- make a separate application to the United States Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and meet the requirements of the U.S. Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) program. Contact information and a Web site address for the C-TPAT program is provided on page 5 of this guide under “Contact information and related Web sites.”

Importers authorized to use the FAST program to import goods **into Canada** must:

- have a demonstrated history of complying with all relevant legislative and regulatory requirements;
- be a Customs Self Assessment (CSA) approved importer;
- sign an undertaking with the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) agreeing to become a Partners in Protection (PIP) participant; and
- use carriers and registered drivers who have been approved for the FAST program.

This document will guide you through the necessary steps to become a FAST approved importer **into Canada**.

What are the benefits?

Importers approved under the FAST program into Canada will benefit from:

- a streamlined accounting and payment process for all of their imported goods;
- a streamlined clearance option for FAST – eligible goods when goods are imported into Canada by an approved carrier and registered driver; and
- a strong and ongoing partnership with the CCRA in recognition of our shared objective to enhance security and safety while protecting the economic prosperity of Canada.

How do I apply?

In this guide, you will find information on the FAST program as well as on an application process that must be completed in order to become a FAST importer into Canada.

In order to be a FAST – approved importer into Canada, you must:

- be a Customs Self Assessment (CSA) approved importer; and
- sign an undertaking with the CCRA agreeing to become a Partners in Protection (PIP) participant.

Customs Self Assessment (CSA) program

There are three parts to the CSA application process:

- Part I – You must provide basic information about your business structure and activities. See Appendix I – CSA Application – Part I.
- Part II – You must document your commercial processes and audit trails. Refer to Appendix II – CSA Application – Part II.
- Part III – You must sign a CSA undertaking. This will solidify your partnership with the CCRA.

It is recommended that you seek approval from the CCRA for Part I of the CSA application process, before completing and submitting Part II of the CSA application process.

Existing CSA clients, must become members of the PIP program to qualify for FAST in Canada.

Partners in Protection (PIP) program

The purpose of the PIP program is to establish a partnership to strengthen efforts to enhance border security, combat organized crime and terrorism, increase awareness of customs compliance issues, and detect and prevent contraband smuggling. The partnership will focus on developing a more secure border environment through the enhancement of physical security throughout production, transportation, importation, and exportation processes.

To become a partner, you must:

- Sign two copies of the PIP (General) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) See Appendix III).
- Complete the security questionnaire within 60 days of signing the PIP (General) MOU. A copy of the security questionnaire is included in Appendix IV.

To assist you in completing the security questionnaire, PIP importer security recommendations have been prepared and can be found in Appendix V.

The PIP MOU and security questionnaire may be completed simultaneously or consecutively. Furthermore, the PIP portion of the application process can be completed at any time during the CSA application process.

Terms and conditions

Once you are approved for the FAST importer program in Canada, you agree to continue to comply with all customs laws and regulations and any other laws or regulations that are enforced by the CCRA.

If you are found in violation of the terms and conditions of this program, we may cancel your privileges and you may be subject to fines, penalties, and criminal charges.

Contact information and related Web sites

Mail FAST importer applications for Canada and signed PIP MOUs and security questionnaires to:

FAST Importer Application
CSA/FAST Division
Canada Customs and Revenue Agency
P.O. Box 7000, Station A
Mississauga ON L5A 3A4
CANADA

For further information on the FAST program into Canada, call the FAST information line at 1-866-340-FAST (3278) or email the CCRA at fast-expres@ccra-adrc.gc.ca

For further information on the PIP program, email the CCRA at pip@ccra-adrc.gc.ca

For inquiries on importing into the United States under the FAST program, email CBP at industry.partnership@customs.treas.gov

Additional information can be found on the following Web sites:

- Free and Secure Trade (FAST) Program
www.ccra.gc.ca/fast
- Customs Self Assessment (CSA) Program
www.ccra.gc.ca/customs/business/importing/csa/menu-e.html
- Partners in Protection (PIP) Program
www.ccra.gc.ca/customs/general/enforcement/partners/menu-e.html
- Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT)
www.cbp.gov

Customs Self Assessment Importer Application – Part I

For the required application form for the Customs Self Assessment (CSA) program – Part I, visit the CSA Web site at:

www.cra.gc.ca/E/pbg/cf/e646/README.html

Customs Self Assessment Importer Application – Part II

For the required application form for the Customs Self Assessment (CSA) program – Part II, visit the CSA Web site at:

www.ccr.gc.ca/E/pbg/cf/e655/README.html

**Partners in Protection
Memorandum of Understanding**

For information on the Partners in Protection (PIP) program and required forms, visit the PIP Web site at:

www.ccra.gc.ca/customs/general/enforcement/partners/menu-e.html

Partners in Protection Security Questionnaire

For information on the Partners in Protection (PIP) program and related forms, visit the PIP Web site at:

www.ccra.gc.ca/customs/general/enforcement/partners/menu-e.html

**Partners in Protection
Security Recommendations**

For information on the Partners in Protection (PIP) program and related forms, visit the PIP Web site at:

www.ccra.gc.ca/customs/general/enforcement/partners/menu-e.html