



Ottawa, December 17, 2003

# CUSTOMS NOTICE N-552

## Mandatory Change for FIRST Release Option

1. This notice is a follow-up to Customs Notice N-524 issued on July 11, 2003, on the requirement for drivers requesting release under the FIRST option to be registered under the Commercial Driver Registration Program (CDRP) or the Free and Secure Trade (FAST) program.
2. The requirement for drivers reporting under the FIRST option to present a CDRP or FAST card scheduled to take effect August 1, 2003, is postponed until the implementation of the Advance Commercial Information initiative.
3. All aspects of the FIRST release process will remain unchanged, including the normal processing of drivers at the primary inspection line (PIL).
4. Drivers are encouraged to continue to apply for a CDRP or FAST card to avoid the loss of the use of the FIRST release option in the future. For more information on FAST or CDRP, please call the FAST information line at 1-866-340-FAST (3278) or email the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency at [fast-expres@ccra-adrc.gc.ca](mailto:fast-expres@ccra-adrc.gc.ca).

Application forms are available on our Web site at [www.ccra.gc.ca/fast](http://www.ccra.gc.ca/fast) or at [www.ccra.gc.ca/customs/business/importing/csa/menu-e.html](http://www.ccra.gc.ca/customs/business/importing/csa/menu-e.html).

You can also contact one of the following officers:

Georgia Gull: (905) 994-6093  
Laurie Parsons: (613) 952-1424

5. For information regarding the FIRST release option, please contact:

Betty Lou Daye  
Release and Warehouse Programs  
Import Process Division  
Operational Policy and Coordination Directorate  
Customs Branch  
8th floor  
Sir Richard Scott Building  
Ottawa ON K1A 0L5

Telephone: (613) 952-1074  
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