

The following is excerpted from a "Customs Bulletin" broadcast via email by CN Rail (Number 26, March 2008).

For all customers who ship from the U.S. or Mexico to Canada

Bill of lading data quality – a key factor in expediting customs clearance of your shipment in Canada

To ensure a smoother customs clearance process and assist customs brokers to identify the importing party promptly and accurately, the shipper should always cite both the **importer of record** and the **customs broker** on the EDI bill of lading. Shippers should provide the importer of record separately, even if the same as the consignee.

Non-Compliant shipments placed in hold

Failure to supply the importer and customs broker on an EDI bill of lading may result in a shipment being held in a rail yard or intermodal terminal pending release from customs. The consignee is responsible for preventable customs hold charges and switching fees per CN Tariffs. Please access our website for details on these optional services and fees:

Carload CN 9000: www.cn.ca/cn9000
 Intermodal CN 9100: www.cn.can/intermodal_tariffs

Critical trans-border data requirements

1. Equipment initial/number
2. Actual shipper name, address, city, province/state
3. Final consignee, address, city, province/state
4. Importer name, address, city, province/state
5. Customs brokers name, address, city, province/state
6. Total number of pieces and package type
7. Complete and accurate description of goods
8. Total weight and unit of measure
9. Invoice value and currency
10. Country of origin of the goods
11. Complete route
12. Seal numbers

Typical electronic bill of lading segments

N7	Equipment initial/number
N1/N3/N4	Complete address information for all commercial parties shown on the waybill
N1/N4	Customs broker name, city, province/state
N1/N3/N4	Importer name, address, city, province/state
L0	Number of pieces and package type
L5	Complete and accurate description of goods
X1	Lading quantity and unit of measure
X1 & XH	Invoice value and currency
X1 & N10	Country of origin of the goods
R2	Complete route
M7	Seal numbers

Thank you for your co-operation in this important matter.

CN Customs Bulletins are available at www.cn.ca/customs.

Register for CN Velocity eBusiness at www.cn.ca/velocity .