



## Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT)

### Changes to the Use of Mexico's FAST Lane

On Monday, May 9, 2016, Mexico's Department of Finance and Public Credit published changes to its General Rules of Foreign Trade. Some of the changes, particularly those in Rule 7.3.3 Section V, may directly affect those C-TPAT highway carriers that currently use Mexico's FAST lanes (the FAST lanes located on the Mexico side of the border) and/or those entities that are part of export supply chains to the United States. Mexico's FAST lanes are located in the following Ports of Entry (POEs):

Tijuana	Colombia
Mexicali	Nuevo Laredo
Nogales	Reynosa
Ciudad Juárez	Matamoros

In the past, C-TPAT highway carriers have been allowed to use Mexico's FAST lanes at the above POEs. If a highway carrier is C-TPAT certified/validated and the conveyance operator is in possession of a valid Free and Secure Trade (FAST) card, the carrier is currently eligible to use Mexico's FAST lanes.

The changes to Mexico's General Rules of Foreign Trade delineate the new requirements for the use of Mexico's FAST lane when exporting into the United States. After the publication date, transportation companies that do not have the certification as an Authorized Economic Operator Mexico (formerly known as Nuevo Esquema de Empresas Certificadas or NEEC), may continue using Mexico's FAST lanes for a transition period of ten (10) months ending on March 10, 2017. Companies that have submitted their AEO Mexico application and have not received a response by March 10, 2017, may continue to use Mexico's FAST lane until the application process is finalized.

As a result of C-TPAT-AEO Mexico Mutual Recognition efforts, the Secretaria de Administracion Tributaria/AEO Mexico will facilitate the application process of C-TPAT certified/validated companies in good standing, or those companies interested in joining the AEO Mexico program. In order to expedite the AEO Mexico certification process, applicants must provide AEO Mexico with the following:

- A copy of the original/most recent C-TPAT validation report (the report must have been issued within the last three (3) years); and
- A Spanish translated copy of the C-TPAT validation report; and
- The applicant must allow C-TPAT to share identifying information with AEO Mexico's program by taking the following steps:
  - The C-TPAT assigned company officer must log into their C-TPAT portal account; then
  - Sign into their Security Model and navigate to the international tab; then
  - On that tab, the box for the country you wish to share information with (Mexico) must have a checkmark placed within it.



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- Not be subject to the cancellation process referred in the General Rules of Foreign Trade (Rule 7.2.5” Annex 1); and
- Companies must meet the minimum security requirements.

If you have any questions regarding the General Rules of Foreign Trade, the below link will direct you to the Secretaria de Hacienda y Credito Publico website where you will find a document titled “Compilado de las Reglas Generales de Comercio Exterior para 2016” which will provide you with additional information.

[http://www.sat.gob.mx/informacion\\_fiscal/normatividad/Paginas/reglas\\_comercio\\_exterior\\_2016.aspx](http://www.sat.gob.mx/informacion_fiscal/normatividad/Paginas/reglas_comercio_exterior_2016.aspx)

If you have any questions regarding the AEO Mexico program and/or questions on the changes to the usage of Mexico’s FAST lanes, please contact the AEO Mexico representatives below:

Irving Becerril Zamora  
Leticia Contreras Sanchez  
[oeamexico@sat.gob.mx](mailto:oeamexico@sat.gob.mx)  
(52)55 1203 0000 ext. 43443

If you have any questions regarding the C-TPAT program and/or assistance granting C-TPAT the authorization to share identifying information with AEO Mexico’s program, please contact your assigned Supply Chain Security Specialist.

C-TPAT continues to strengthen our communication and joint efforts with AEO Mexico in order to provide you with the most updated information on both programs.