

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: CARM Customs Program Mandatory in May 2024

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Report Category: FAIRS Subject Report, Policy and Program Announcements

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Report Highlights:

Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) Assessment and Revenue Management (CARM) project becomes mandatory in May 2024. The project is aimed at importers of record, including U.S. non-resident importers (NRIs), who are strongly encouraged to become familiar with this new electronic customs platform, and enroll through the CARM client portal in advance of the coming into force date.

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) has recently launched an updated website for its Assessment and Revenue Management (CARM) project in anticipation of the coming into force date of **May 2024**, when the tool becomes **mandatory for all importers of record in Canada, including U.S. non-resident importers (NRIs)**. CARM is a recent CBSA initiative meant to facilitate the collection of duties and taxes for all goods imported into Canada. According to the Agency, CARM will “simplify the overall importing process, provide a modern interface for importing into Canada, give importers self-service access to their information, reduce the cost of importing into Canada, and improve consistency of compliance with trade rules”.

While most U.S. exports of agricultural products enter Canada duty free under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), U.S. NRIs are strongly encouraged to register for CARM and become familiar with the platform before May 2024, as CARM is mandatory for importers regardless of whether duties and taxes have to be collected. Additionally, all U.S. exporters are encouraged to check with their Canadian partners, such as buyers, importers, and brokers, to make sure they are aware of CARM, and have registered in the system.

CBSA continues to offer a wide range of tutorials and reference tools to importers to familiarize with CARM and assist with onboarding, including:

- User guide: Onboarding to the CARM Client Portal – Release 1
- CARM release schedule, features and benefits: Breakdown of upcoming changes you need to know about
- Release Prior to Payment (RPP) program transition period for importers
- Information for importers
- Information for customs brokers
- Information for trade consultants and financial security providers
- An extensive video library on “how to” tutorials
- Frequently asked questions

CBSA is also offering CARM webinars, with upcoming dates on October 17, November 7, and December 5 on onboarding, and November 14 on “Release 2”. Additionally, CBSA offers CARM-specific client support services.

FAS/Canada reported on CARM in January 2022 via GAIN report CA2022-0002, and in March 2023 via GAIN report CA2023-0014, and will continue to monitor related developments and provide updates, as needed.

Attachments:

No Attachments.