



CBSA Marine Carrier Code Application and CBSA Bond

Many of you may be aware of proposed changes to the requirements for ship operators entering Canada. Common practice up until now has been for operators to use their agent's Marine Carrier Code, but these agents' codes are due to be cancelled. Instead, each ship operator entering Canada will have to have their own Marine Carrier Code. The P&I Club correspondents in Canada have recommended that ship operators apply to be a bonded operator unless they only export goods out of Canada. The bond amount required will be \$25,000 and will be part of the operator's application for a Marine Carrier Code and sent to the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA).

The original implementation date for this requirement, and therefore cancellation of the marine agent codes, was mid- September 2013, however, this date has now been extended to 30th January, 2014. In the meantime, we are working with CBSA to have them accept the process that we currently use for application of International Carrier Bonds for entry into the USA, which should make the process for our members much more practicable and efficient. I will update you once it becomes clearer as to the final requirements.

On a different matter, I am delighted to announce the launch of SIGCo's new web site with a new website address. The new address is www.sigcogroup.com and reflects SIGCo's growth and development as a modern, multi-faceted and geographically spread business entity. I am sure you will find the updated content interesting and informative and welcome any feedback you might have, particularly if you experience any glitches during the re-launch.

Best regards

Neil Clemens

President,

SIGCo