

Transborder Services

Detailed Commodity Descriptions

Under ACI eManifesting requirements (Advance Commercial Information), Northbound shipments to Canada may be delayed by Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) if the commodity descriptions on the Bill of Lading and Commercial Invoice are vague and generalized. Descriptions such as Freight All Kinds / Misc Cargo / Accessories/ Listing the NMFC Item # only and the like will delay the PARS processing of your shipments coming into Canada. The table below is a partial listing of Not Acceptable and corresponding Acceptable commodity descriptions. As per CBSA, this list is for education purposes and they stress that all shipments moving to Canada should have detailed, common sense commodity descriptions on the Bill of Lading and Commercial Invoice.

NOT ACCEPTABLE	ACCEPTABLE
Apparel	Clothing, Shoes, Footwear
Wearing Apparel	Jewellery (may include watches)
Ladies' Apparel	
Men's Apparel	
Appliances	Kitchen Appliances, Industrial Appliances, Heat Pump
Auto Parts/ Parts	New Auto Parts, Used Auto Parts
Caps	Baseball Caps, Blasting Caps, Bottle Caps, Hub Caps
Chemicals/ Hazardous Chemicals/ Non-Hazardous Chemicals	Actual Chemical Name (not brand name) <u>or</u> U.N. HAZMAT Code Identifier #
Electronic Goods	Computers
Electronics	Consumer Electronics
	Telephones
	Electronic Toys (can include Game Boys, Game Cubes, Dancing Elmo Doll, etc.)
	Personal/Household Electronics (e.g.PDA, VCRs,TVs)
Equipment	Industrial Equipment, Oil Well Equipment, Automotive Equipment, Poultry Equipment, etc.
Flooring	Wood Flooring, Plastic Flooring, Carpet, Ceramic Tile, Marble Flooring
Foodstuffs	Oranges, Fish, Packaged Rice, Packaged Grain, Bulk Grain
Iron	Iron Pipes, Steel Pipes
Steel	Iron Building Material, Steel Building Material
Leather Articles	Saddles, Leather Handbags, Leather Jackets, Shoes
Machinery	Metal Working Machinery, Cigarette Making Machinery, etc
Machines	Sewing Machines, Printing Machines
Pipes	Plastic Pipes, PVC Pipes, Steel Pipes, Copper Pipes
Plastic Goods	Plastic Kitchenware, Plastic Houseware, Industrial Plastics Toys, New/Used Auto Parts
Polyurethane	Polyurethane Threads, Polyurethane Medical Gloves
Rubber Articles	Rubber Hoses, Tires, Toys, Rubber Conveyor Belts
Rods	Welding Rods, Rebar, Aluminum Rods, Reactor Rods
Scrap	Plastic Scrap, Aluminum Scrap, Iron Scrap
Tiles	Ceramic Tiles, Marble Tiles
Tools	Hand Tools, Power Tools, Industrial Tools
Wires	Electric Wires, Auto Harness, Coiled Wire (Industrial)

Source: Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA)

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