

**United States Customs Service, Treasury**

**§ 123.17**

country and which are engaged in international traffic, arriving with merchandise or passengers destined to points in the United States, or arriving empty or loaded for the purpose of taking out merchandise or passengers, may be admitted without formal entry or the payment of duty. Such vehicles shall not engage in local traffic except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section.

(b) *Deposit of registration by vehicle not on regular trip.* In any case in which a foreign-based truck, bus, or taxicab admitted under this section is not in use on a regularly scheduled trip, the port director may require that the registration card for the vehicle be deposited pending the return of the vehicle for departure to the country from which it arrived, or the port director may take other appropriate measures to assure the proper use and departure of the vehicle.

(c) *Use in local traffic.* Foreign-based trucks, busses, and taxicabs admitted under this section shall not engage in local traffic in the United States unless the vehicle comes within one of the following exceptions:

(1) The vehicle may carry merchandise or passengers between points in the United States if such carriage is incidental to the immediately prior or subsequent engagement of that vehicle in international traffic. Any such carriage by the vehicle in the general direction of an export move or as part of the return of the vehicle to its base country shall be considered incidental to its engagement in international traffic. An alien driver will not be permitted to operate a vehicle under this paragraph, unless the driver is in compliance with the applicable regulations of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

(2) A foreign-based truck trailer may carry merchandise between points in the United States on its departure for a foreign country under the same conditions as are prescribed for "other foreign railroad equipment" in §123.12(a)(2).

(d) *Penalty for improper use.* The use of any vehicle referred to in this section in violation of this section may result in liabilities being incurred under

section 592, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1592).

[T.D. 70-121, 35 FR 8215, May 26, 1970, as amended by T.D. 79-160, 44 FR 31956, June 4, 1979; T.D. 83-118, 48 FR 23385, May 25, 1983; T.D. 99-10, 64 FR 7504, Feb. 16, 1999]

**§ 123.15 Vehicles of foreign origin used between communities of the United States and Canada or Mexico.**

Vehicles of foreign origin which are used for commercial purposes between adjoining or neighboring communities of the United States and Canada or Mexico, such as delivery, peddlers', and service trucks, or wagons, are subject to duty on first arrival, but may thereafter be admitted without formal entry or the payment of duty so long as they are continuously employed in such service.

**§ 123.16 Entry of returning trucks, busses, or taxicabs in international traffic.**

(a) *Admission without entry or payment of duty.* Trucks, busses, and taxicabs, whether of foreign or domestic origin, taking out merchandise or passengers for hire or leaving empty for the purpose of bringing back merchandise or passengers for hire shall on their return to the United States be admitted without formal entry or the payment of duty upon their identity being established by State registration cards.

(b) *Use in local traffic.* Trucks, busses, and taxicabs in use in international traffic, which may include the incidental carrying of merchandise or passengers for hire between points in a foreign country, or between points in this country, shall be admitted under this section. However, such vehicles taken abroad for commercial use between points in a foreign country, otherwise than in the course of their use in international traffic, shall be considered to have been exported and must be regularly entered on return.

[T.D. 70-121, 35 FR 8215, May 26, 1970, as amended by T.D. 99-10, 64 FR 7504, Feb. 16, 1999]

**§ 123.17 Foreign repairs to domestic trucks, busses, taxicabs and their equipment.**

(a) *Domestic trucks, busses, and taxicabs and their equipment defined.* For the

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purpose of this section, trucks, busses, and taxicabs and their equipment manufactured in, or regularly imported into the United States, shall be considered “domestic” if not subsequently formally entered and cleared through foreign customs into another country, nor used in foreign local traffic otherwise than as an incident of their return to the United States.

(b) *Report of arrival and payment of duty on repairs.* A report of the first arrival in the United States of domestic trucks, busses, and taxicabs and their equipment after repairs have been made in a foreign country, other than those required to restore such vehicle or equipment to the condition in which it last left the United States (“running repairs”), shall be made by the driver or person in charge of the vehicle promptly, in writing, to the Customs officer at the port of reentry. The report shall state the time and place of arrival and the nature and value of the repairs. Each such vehicle or its equipment when withdrawn from international traffic shall be subject to duty upon the value of the repairs (other than “running repairs”) made abroad at the rate at which the repaired article would be dutiable if imported.

**§ 123.18 Equipment and materials for constructing bridges or tunnels between the United States and Canada or Mexico.**

(a) *Admission of equipment and materials.* Equipment for use in construction of bridges or tunnels between the United States and Canada or Mexico shall be admitted without entry or the payment of duty. Materials for such use shall be admitted without entry or payment of duty only for installation in the bridge or tunnel proper, and not in the approaches on land at the United States end of such bridge or tunnel.

(b) *Customs supervision.* All articles admitted under paragraph (a) of this section shall be subject to Customs supervision at the expense of the builder until installed, entered, or exported.

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**Subpart C—Shipments in Transit Through Canada or Mexico**

**§ 123.21 Merchandise in transit.**

(a) *Status.* Merchandise may be transported from one port to another in the United States through Canada or Mexico in accordance with the regulations in this subpart or subparts E for trucks transiting Canada, F for commercial traveler’s samples, or G for baggage. Merchandise so transported is not subject to treatment as an importation when returned to the United States, and no inward foreign manifest is required for merchandise returned under an in-transit manifest. In-transit merchandise returned to the United States shall be treated as an importation as are shipments made from Canada or Mexico if:

(1) An in-transit manifest is not furnished for the merchandise upon its return to the United States;

(2) The merchandise has been shipped in foreign territory without Customs supervision when the transshipment required the breaking of Customs seals; or

(3) The Customs inspector finds any of the Customs seals applied to the conveyance or compartment unlocked or missing.

(b) *Use of certain vessels prohibited.* Merchandise shall not be transported from port to port in the United States through Canada or Mexico by vessel in violation of the provisions of section 27, Merchant Marine Act of 1920, as amended (46 U.S.C. 883), or section 588, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1588). (See § 4.80 of this chapter.)

(c) *Regulations applicable.* The provisions of this subpart shall govern all merchandise transported from one port to another in the United States through Canada or Mexico under in-transit procedures, except as otherwise provided in this subpart or in subpart E for truck shipments transiting Canada, subpart F for commercial traveler’s samples transiting Canada, and subpart G for baggage transiting Canada or Mexico.