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STAT-USA

U.S. Department of Commerce
HCHB Room 4885

Washington, D.C. 20230

1-800-STAT-USA (782-8872)

202-482-1986

202-482-3417 (fax)

<http://home.stat-usa.gov>

Containerized Shipment Data Available on USA Trade Online!

Effective with the **December 2006** trade data (being released on **February 13, 2007**), USA Trade Online is now reporting containerized shipment data. These data provide **vessel value** and **vessel shipping weight** data for items shipped in van-type containers. These data will show up in USA Trade Online for port-level data requests only. They are requested using the "measures" dimension.

Containerized shipments have some caveats. For U.S. imports, all shipments come through the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) system which requires them to be identified as being either containerized or non-containerized. (*Imports into Foreign Trade Zones are not classified this way though.*) For U.S. exports, shipment types are self-reported by the filer; containerized exports may be understated as a result.

Harmonized System (H.S.) Code Changes

Effective with the **January 2007 trade data**, which will be released on **March 9, 2007**, a large number of Harmonized System commodity classification codes will be changed. This may require that USA Trade Online users change their commodity requests. For exports, which are classified by the Statistical Classification of Domestic and Foreign Commodities Exported from the U.S. (*otherwise known as the Schedule B*) about 19 percent of 10-digit items will see changes. Similar numbers are likely for imports, which are classified by the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) Annotated.

If you'd like to start working on changing your commodity numbers now, the new Schedule B can be found on the U.S. Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division site at <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/schedules/b/>.

The new HTSUS Annotated can be found on the U.S. United States International Trade Commission site at <http://www.usitc.gov/tata/hts/>

Questions regarding USA Trade Online may be directed to STAT-USA at 1-800-782-8872 or statmail@esa.doc.gov. Questions regarding Harmonized System changes should be directed to the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. International Trade Commission web sites provided above.

