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Tips on How to Resolve AES Fatal Errors

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When a shipment is filed to the AES, a system response message is generated and indicates whether the shipment has been accepted or rejected. If the shipment is accepted, the AES filer receives an Internal Transaction Number (ITN) as confirmation. However, if the shipment is rejected, a Fatal Error notification is received.

To help you resolve AES Fatal Errors, here are some tips on how to correct the most frequent errors that were generated in AES this month.

Fatal Error Response Code:
122

Narrative: Carrier Code is Outdated

Reason: The Carrier ID (SCAC/IATA) reported is not an active code in AES at the Estimated Date of Export.

Resolution: For vessel, rail or truck shipments, the carrier must be identified with an active SCAC code issued by the National Motor Freight Traffic Association (NMFTA). For air shipments, the carrier must be identified with an active IATA code issued by the International Air Transport Association. The Carrier ID (SCAC/IATA) must be active at the time of export.

Verify the Carrier ID (SCAC/IATA) and the Estimated Date of Export, correct and resubmit.

Fatal Error Response Code:
254

Narrative: USPPPI Postal Code Must Be Numeric

Reason: The USPPPI Postal Code contains a string not reported as 5 numeric digits followed by 4 spaces or as 9 numeric digits.

Resolution: The USPPPI Postal Code must be reported as either 5 numeric digits followed by 4 spaces or 9 numeric digits.

Verify the USPPPI Postal Code, correct and resubmit.

For a complete list of Fatal Error Response Codes, their reasons, and resolutions, see [Appendix A - Commodity Filing Response Messages](#).

It is important that AES filers correct Fatal Errors as soon as they are received in order to comply with the [Foreign Trade Regulations](#). These errors must be corrected prior to export for shipments filed predeparture and as soon as possible for shipments filed postdeparture, but not later than ten calendar days after departure.

For further information or questions, contact the U.S. Census Bureau's AES Branch.

Telephone: (800) 549-0595, select option 1 for AES

Email: askaes@census.gov

Online: www.census.gov/trade

Blog: blogs.census.gov/globalreach