

BILL OF LADING (B/L)

The B/L is the shipper's acknowledgement that the goods have been received. A shipment may contain a set of bills of lading. The exporter should keep one set on file and send one to the importer and one to the customs broker.

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- [Export-i, Business Guide Moving into Mexico, pg 90-91](#)

The bill should include:

- The weights and measurements of the packages and their types;
- The names and addresses of the shipper and the Mexican importer, consignee or customs broker;
- The ports of origin and destination;
- A description of the goods;
- A list of freight and other charges;
- The number of B/Ls in the full set; and
- The carrier's official acknowledgment of receipt on board of the goods for shipment.

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

General certificates of origin are used by customs officials throughout the world to establish the country where the goods were manufactured. The country of origin affects the rate of duty that will be applied to the imported good. For products which are subject to countervailing duties, the ability to prove that the goods did not come from a targeted country is essential. In Mexico, countervailing duties exceed 300 percent for some Far Eastern countries.

The NAFTA certificate of origin is a uniform document established by all three countries. The certificate must be signed by the exporter, and it is valid for shipments made within any 12-month period specified on the certificate. It remains valid for preference claims made up to four years after the date of signature. A NAFTA certificate of origin is not required for goods valued at less than US \$1,200, although a statement of origin should be included on the invoice. The regulations require that the certificate of origin be in the possession of the importer at the time of importation, and do not require that the certificate accompany the goods. Nonetheless, the certificate can help to avoid possible delays and many exporters elect to include a signed original with every shipment.

The NAFTA certificate of origin forms, along with completion instructions, can be obtained from Revenue Canada.

WANT MORE INFO?

CLICK BELOW

For a sample Certificate of Origin please go to:

- [Export-i, Business Guide Documents and Regulations,](#)

For information on whether your product qualifies, please go to:

- [Export-i, Business Guide Documents and Regulations,](#)