



# IMPORT ENTRY LIQUIDATION

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The term liquidation is used in reference to a Customs entry. Liquidation means that the entry review by U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP) has concluded with the final computation of duties.

Duties that are paid at the time of entry are considered deposits of estimated duties, and the final duties are determined at liquidation. In most cases duty assessment at liquidation does not change and entries liquidate as entered. However, if CBP's final determination differs from the entry, the entry will liquidate as follows:

- Underpayment of Duty at Entry – Customs issues a bill for payment of duties owed due to reasons such as change in classification or valuation.
- Overpayment of Duty at Entry – Customs issues a refund for overpayment of duties at time of entry.

## LIQUIDATION PERIOD

Entries remain "unliquidated" for a period of 314 days after the date of entry. During this period, importers are able to revise entry information (country of origin, classification, valuation, etc.) through the Post Summary Correction (PSC) process. The 314th day marks liquidation, or an entry is "deemed" liquidated by operation of law through Customs inaction within (1) year from the date of entry or reconciliation, unless suspended or extended.

Suspension of liquidation is particularly common for entries covering merchandise subject to anti-dumping or countervailing duties, if the case is being reviewed for any reason by the Department of Commerce (DOC).

Entries for merchandise valued at less than \$2500 (Informal Entries) are liquidated on the date that Customs duties and taxes are paid. This entry type cannot be used for merchandise that is subject to quotas, anti-dumping, or countervailing duties.



## NOTIFICATION OF LIQUIDATION

Liquidation dates can be to monitored using the ACE reporting tool (AM 100, Courtesy Notice of Liquidation). Additionally, importers can utilize CBP's online portal to review liquidation status [Official Notice of Extension, Suspension and Liquidation](#).

## PROTEST LIQUIDATION DECISIONS

It is especially important to monitor liquidation dates if an importer disagrees, for any reason, with the duty assessment on an entry, and wishes to file a protest with CBP to recover duties. Once an entry has been liquidated, an importer has 180 days to file a protest.