

CARM and the Statement of Account



With the CBSA Assessment Revenue Management (CARM) Release 2 proposed to come into force for all importers in May 2024, importers will be responsible for managing their own statement of accounts and making payments to the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA).

What is a Statement of Account?

The Statement of Account (SOA) is a monthly statement summarizing a business' financial transactions with CBSA. It includes the account balance, transactions and fees paid for imports into Canada. There are two types of SOAs; an Importer SOA and a Broker SOA. Many importers who work with customs brokers use their broker's SOA to view their account and make payments through their broker to the government. Under CARM, the SOAs will become the responsibility of the importer. An SOA will be issued to any business that has undertaken a financial transaction with the CBSA.

What changes are being made to the SOA under CARM?

At the CARM go live date, the most significant change to importers is that they will be directly responsible for handling their own SOAs and making payments to the government.

Importers will no longer be able to rely on their customs brokers to make payments through the brokerage account and then bill them separately. The financial relationship will be directly between the importer and CBSA. There is the option of giving a broker or other service provider delegated access to an importer's CARM Client Portal (also known as the CCP) to allow them to make payments on their behalf. This is a

critical discussion for importers to have with their brokers prior to the CARM go live date. Importers, and brokers with delegated access, will be able to view the SOA either through the CCP or choose to receive an electronic copy.

CARM will move the SOAs from a transaction-based report to a summarized account-based statement that will provide a summary of all transactions recorded during the billing period. More detailed transactional information will be available through the CCP.

CARM will also introduce new billing cycles. Details are outlined in the chart on next page.

What do importers need to do to be ready for these changes?

To communicate and conduct financial transactions with CBSA, importers must be registered within the CCP. Importers should also ensure that access and permissions have been granted to the appropriate trade chain partners.

The SOA will need to be reviewed monthly and payments made. Importers need to decide if this is something they will manage themselves or outsource to their brokers. If choosing to use brokers for this service, importers must ensure they give the brokers the appropriate access to the CCP.

Harmonized Billing Cycles

	Cash Clients	Release Prior to Payment Program Participants				
		Regular Commercial Stream	CLVS (Courier Low Value Shipment)	CSA Option A (CSA: Customs Self-Assessment Program)	CSA Option B (CSA: Customs Self-Assessment Program)	CTC (Continuous Transmission Commodity)
Commercial Accounting Declaration (CAD)	Time of release	5 business days after release	24 th of month 2	Until payment due date	Until payment due date	24 th of month 2
Statement of Account (SOA)	25 th of month 2 for all goods released between the 18 th of month 1 to the 17 th of month 2*	25 th of month 2 for all goods released between the 18 th of month 1 to the 17 th of month 2*	25 th of month 2 for all goods released in month 1*	25 th of month 2 for all goods released in month 1*	25 th of month 2 for all goods released between the 18 th of month 1 to the 17 th of month 2*	25 th of month 2 for all goods released in month 1*
Payment Due Date	Time of release	10 weekdays** after the 17 th of month 2				
Correction Period	No correction period	From CAD submission date to payment due date				
Adjustment Period	From payment period	After payment due date onward				

Note: The SOA will only reflect goods released and accounted for by the Commercial Accounting Declaration (CAD) due date.

Note: Weekdays are Monday to Friday, inclusive of holidays

Source: Canada Border Services Agency, "What You Need to Know with CARM Release 2 Webinar", November 29, 2022, slide 22.

Have questions or need help?

The KPMG Trade and Customs team is available to answer any questions regarding CARM on a complementary basis.



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