



Air Cargo Advance Screening (ACAS)

As of June 12, 2018, the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) implemented its **Air Cargo Advanced Screening (ACAS)** requirements for cargo entering the country following the completion of a pilot program. In the final ruling, DHS required air cargo data be submitted to Customs and Border Protection (CBP) before the aircraft is loaded, differing from previous requirements that the information be provided 4 hours before arrival. Previously a voluntary process (in which many airlines already participated), the program is now mandatory for airlines flying inbound to the United States. This is a necessary measure as the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) continues to raise the bar on aviation security worldwide.

As part of the ACAS program, carriers submit a subset of required "pre-arrival" air cargo data to CBP at the earliest point possible and prior to loading the cargo onto aircrafts destined to or transiting through the United States. JAS Forwarding (USA) has been an active participant in the pilot program, and the ACAS Program final ruling in assisting CBP and TSA on its initiative to provide enhanced security for air cargo coming into the USA. Partnering with Descartes Global Logistics Network, JAS has successfully completed its setup and implementation measures for ACAS, giving JAS full visibility of filing status, exception notifications, and the ability to monitor ACAS status 24 hours a day.

During the pilot program the majority of ACAS participants consisted of airlines and express carriers but lacked freight forwarder participation. Representing the forwarding community, JAS had the opportunity to help write the rules before we were subjected to the requirements," says Sommer Sampson, *Corporate IAC Security Coordinator at JAS Forwarding (USA)*. "We're excited to be an active part in the ACAS Program and are committed to enhancing readiness for the regulation when it is fully enforced in June of 2019." Ms. Sampson is also the lead 24hr contact with CBP NTS (National Targeting Center). Sampson states, "Getting on board with this Initiative was no easy task. It was a collaborative effort and we couldn't have done it without the assistance of Paul Foster, *JAS IT Special Projects Division*. Mr. Foster recently appeared on the CBP Panel at the 2019 Air Cargo Conference in Las Vegas, NV to discuss the set up and implementation of the ACAS program from a freight forwarder's perspective. Alongside Mr. Foster was Kester Meijer, *Director of Operation Compliance & Safety* at KLM Cargo. JAS has partnered with KLM Airlines in order to share information and test results to gain a better understanding of the systems' response, in addition to acquiring knowledge of the general process and results expected from ACAS filings. Also, on the panel was Mike White, *President of CNS-Cargo Network Services*, and Bob Imbriani, *Executive Vice President at Team Worldwide*.

About JAS Forwarding (USA) JAS Forwarding (USA) strives to be an organization that is committed to providing service at a level of excellence that exceeds every industry standard, at a price that is fair. We will accomplish this by creating an environment that encourages and rewards our employees on reaching our full potential and puts emphasis on both competition and equality. It is our objective to create lasting value to our clients and shareholders by repeatedly and transparently delivering the client's products safely and on time and doing so in an atmosphere of integrity and honesty that still allows our company to prosper in the long term. For more information, visit www.jas.com.