UAE's MPCI Security Filing

The United Arab Emirates' Maritime Preload Cargo Information (MPCI) program

Port Jebel Ali, Dubai, UAE

The Maritime Pre-Load Cargo Information (MPCI) program is managed by the UAE's National Advance Information Center (NAIC) to strengthen cargo security through advance electronic cargo data submission for risk assessment and screening.

For freight forwarders and sub-co-loaders, House Bill of Lading data must be submitted at least 24 hours before loading at the last foreign port before the UAE. Full enforcement begins October 1, 2026.

When will it be implemented?

The MPCI program requires advance electronic submission of containerized cargo information before loading. Full enforcement begins October 1, 2026, with non-compliance potentially resulting in Do Not Load instructions, shipment holds, loading restrictions or regulatory penalties.

Who is responsible?

- Shipping lines, or their delegated shipping agents, are responsible for filing the carrier's Master Bill of Lading (MBL).
- Freight forwarders and NVOCCs are responsible for filing their House Bill of Lading (HBL) when applicable.

How can I get fast and accurate assistance?

Trade Tech is ready to support customers as MPCI moves into full enforcement on October 1, 2026. With extensive experience in advance cargo security filings, our digital solution streamlines the filing process and provides the technology and regulatory support needed to manage compliance efficiently.

Key Requirements of the UAE's MPCI Program

- Containerized cargo information must be submitted electronically at least **24 hours before loading** operations begin at the port of origin.
- Shipping Lines, NVOCCs and Freight Forwarders, as well as Master Loaders and Co-Loaders, have MPCI filing responsibilities for the relevant Bill of Lading information.
- Freight Forwarders must clearly identify the actual shipper and consignee in their filings.
- Vessel Operators must verify that the required filing has been approved before loading and update the Bill of Lading information with the actual vessel name and departure date.
- Shipping Lines are responsible for the Master Bill of Lading (MBL), while Freight Forwarders and NVOCCs are responsible for the House Bill of Lading (HBL) when applicable.
- Local Freight Forwarders may delegate filing to overseas partners, but the liable party remains responsible for the filing.
- MPCI applies to import, transit, transshipment and Freight Remaining on Board (FROB) cargo.

NAIC will return a response status for each filing:
· ACT (Accepted)
· DNL (Do Not Load)
· RFI (Request for Information)

Trade Tech supports cargo security filings in more than 37 countries, including the United States, Canada, Mexico, Japan, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and across the EU. As governments continue to introduce standardized pre-departure filing requirements, Trade Tech enables secure and seamless data exchange across jurisdictions, helping logistics providers meet evolving compliance requirements and keep cargo moving.

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