Tips on How to Resolve AES Fatal Errors

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When a shipment is filed to the AES, a system response message is generated and indicates whether the shipment has been accepted or rejected. If the shipment is accepted, the AES filer receives an Internal Transaction Number (ITN) as confirmation. However, if the shipment is rejected, a Fatal Error notification is received.

To help you resolve AES Fatal Errors, here are some tips on how to correct the most frequent errors that were generated in AES for the month of May.

Fatal Error Response Code: 073

Narrative: Shipment Cannot Be Cancelled
Reason: The shipment cannot be cancelled if the shipment has been seized or detained by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). When a shipment is held by CBP, an indicator is input into the Automated Export System. This indicator will not allow the shipment to be cancelled.
Resolution: A CBP officer must manually remove the enforcement activity in the Automated Export System to allow for cancellation. The filer must contact the CBP Officer at the port of export, otherwise subsequent errors will be generated. Contact your AES client representative for further information.

Fatal Error Response Code: 088

Narrative: Line On File, Action Not Allowed
Reason: The reported Line Number for the shipment already exists on file, therefore the Add action was not allowed for the line item.
Resolution: When the Shipment Filing Action Request Indicator is a Change and the Line Item Filing Action Request Indicator is an Add, an export shipment commodity cannot exist on the file that matches the reported Line Number for the shipment.

Verify, correct the shipment and resubmit. Contact your AES representative for further information.

For a complete list of Fatal Error Response Codes, their reasons, and resolutions, see Appendix A - Commodity Filing Response Messages.

It is important that AES filers correct Fatal Errors as soon as they are received in order to comply with the Foreign Trade Regulations. These errors must be corrected prior to export for shipments filed predeparture and as soon as possible for shipments filed postdeparture, but not later than ten calendar days after departure.

For further information or questions, contact the U.S. Census Bureau's AES Branch.
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