

**PORT (TRADE)  
INFORMATION  
NOTICE**NUMBER: 2008 – 25  
ISSUE DATE: February 5, 2008**SUBJECT: Transportation Worker Identification Card (TWIC) Information****DISTRIBUTION: Carriers, Brokers, Other Interested Parties, Service Port of Blaine****PURPOSE: To inform the trade.** This information was excerpted from a memorandum to the field from the Executive Director, Cargo and conveyance Security.

As the number of enrollments for the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) card increase, it is anticipated that the trade will have questions relating to implementation of the TWIC program. This memorandum provides links to pertinent information that will enable the field as well as the trade to effectively answer basic questions or refer the interested parties to the appropriate website or help desk.

The TWIC was developed jointly by Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and the U.S. Coast Guard to help identify non-government workers who may pose a security threat to the maritime transportation system. The TWIC program was mandated by the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA) of 2002 and the Security and Accountability for Every Port (SAFE) Act of 2006. TSA is responsible for issuance and revocation of the TWIC card. The Coast Guard will enforce the rules associated with the TWIC program.

Since the TWIC program applies to areas regulated by the MTSA, brokerage offices located within the Captain of the Port zones at seaports may be affected by the TWIC regulations. However, brokerage offices in GSA property outside the seaports will not be affected. All secure areas within seaport facilities regulated by MTSA will be affected by the TWIC program once compliance begins on September 25, 2008.

Brokers should be encouraged to contact the facility owners/operators where their offices are located to determine if they will be affected by the TWIC regulations. There is nothing to preclude brokers from enrolling in the program, if they may anticipate needing unescorted access to secure seaport areas in the future.

For further information on the TWIC program, please visit the following TSA and U.S. Coast Guard websites:  
[http://www.tsa.gov/what\\_we\\_do/layers/twic/twic\\_faqs.shtm](http://www.tsa.gov/what_we_do/layers/twic/twic_faqs.shtm) and <http://homeport.uscg.mil/mycg/portal/ep/home.do>.

TSA's TWIC Program Help Desk can be reached at 1-866-DHS-TWIC (1-866-347-8942).

The U.S. Coast Guard's TWIC Help Desk can be reached at 1-877-MTSA-AID (1-877-687-2243), or by email at [uscg-twic-helpdesk@uscg.mil](mailto:uscg-twic-helpdesk@uscg.mil).

Jay Brandt  
Assistant Port Director  
Trade Operations

**DISCLAIMER:** This information has been prepared for your convenience by the Customs and Border Protection office at Blaine, Washington. This material is intended to provide guidance. Recognizing that many complicated factors are involved in Customs matters, an importer may wish to obtain a binding ruling under 19 CFR Part 177. Reliance solely on this information may not be considered reasonable care. Importers are referred to Treasury Decision 97-96, which was published in the **Federal Register** of December 4, 1997, and in the **Customs Bulletin** of December 17, 1997, for in-depth information on the concept of reasonable care.

ONE TEAM ★ ONE FIGHT

**BUREAU OF CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION**