

US-VISIT UPDATE



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Security

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The information that follows is from U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Those in the travel industry will be interested in the details of this requirement.

REMINDER: ADVANCE PASSENGER INFORMATION SYSTEM REQUIREMENT GOES INTO EFFECT ON OCTOBER 4, 2005

A new requirement to include additional passenger manifest data through the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) goes into effect on October 4, 2005. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will provide special assistance to help carriers with compliance. The requirement calls on carriers to include addresses where visitors will be staying while in the United States.

CBP has assigned full-time national account managers to work directly with carriers on APIS implementation and compliance issues around the October 4 date. They will clarify information that carriers should include on the manifest for those passengers who are in transit to a cruise ship, picking up a rental car, or those not knowing their address while in the United States.

The new rule is mandated by the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act of 2002. Submission of this manifest information to CBP is a necessary component of the nation's continuing program of ensuring aviation and vessel safety and protecting national security. The required information also will assist in the efficient inspection and control of passengers and crew members and thus will facilitate the effective enforcement of the customs, immigration, and transportation security laws.

For more information about the requirements or how to contact a CBP national account manager, go to www.cbp.gov.