

Special Feature



ATA CARNET FOR TEMPORARY GOODS IMPORT

ATA Carnet is a temporary admission document which simplifies the custom procedures and clearance in a foreign land, without paying duty or Bank Guarantee for temporary import into that country. Like a passport for goods, the ATA Carnet (pronounced as "Carney") allows for the goods for which it was issued to enter any of the participating countries without hassles of documentation or complicated custom procedures for upto one year. An ATA Carnet holder can avoid customs declaration and can do away with security deposit or guarantees in the country of importation.

About ATA Carnet

ATA Carnet is an International Uniform Customs document issued in 67 countries including India, which are parties to the Customs Convention on ATA Carnet. The ATA Carnet permits duty free temporary admission of goods into a member country without the need to raise customs bond, payment of duty and fulfillment of other customs formalities in one or a number of foreign countries. The initials "ATA" are an acronym of the French and English word "Admission Temporaire / Temporary Admission".

The ATA Carnet System is a perfect illustration of how close co-operation between business and customs can facilitate and stimulate international trade. The ATA Carnet operates under International Customs Conventions administered by the World Customs Organisation (WCO). A World ATA Carnet Council manages the system in cooperation with the WCO.

Within the ICC World Chambers Federation, the World ATA Carnet Council (WATAC) runs the ATA system and its international guarantee chain. The Council is made up of representatives from the countries and territories where Carnets are issued and accepted.

Each country in the system has a single guaranteeing body approved by the national customs authorities and the ICC World Chambers Federation (Until June 2001, the International

Bureau of Chambers of Commerce). The WCF is sponsored by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Paris. In India, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), is appointed as National Guaranteeing & Issuing Association for ATA Carnets.

The national guaranteeing association is entitled to issue Carnets and to authorize local chambers on the national territory to deliver them on its behalf. In major trading nations, dozens of local chambers have that authority.

The ATA international guarantee chain provides reciprocal guarantees assuring customs administrations that duties and taxes due in case of misuse will be paid.

Why ATA Carnet?

The ATA Carnet is a simple customs document which is readily made out by the holder and checked by the customs.

For business people the ATA Carnet provides a simple and speedy way to travel abroad with business materials. It saves both time and money and this is a very important factor in international competition.

Trade circles, guaranteeing associations and customs administrations all acknowledge the excellent operation of the ATA Carnet System.