

*Speed
through customs
with* **your
passport
for
goods**



Duty-free temporary imports

The ATA Carnet is an international customs document that permits duty-free temporary import of goods for up to one year. The initials “ATA” are an acronym of the French and English words “Admission Temporaire/Temporary Admission.”



ATA Carnets cover:

- commercial samples;
- professional equipment;
- goods for presentation or use at trade fairs, shows, exhibitions and the like.



That means almost anything: computers, repair tools, photographic and film equipment, musical instruments, industrial machinery, vehicles, jewellery, clothing, medical appliances and aircraft. Race horses, old masters, prehistoric relics, ballet costumes and rock group sound systems are just some of the items that cross borders thanks to ATA Carnets.



ATA Carnets do not cover perishable or consumable items or goods for processing or repair.



Sail through customs

- ATA Carnets cut costs to exporters by eliminating value-added tax (VAT) and customs duties.
- Carnet holders are not required to post securities with customs.
- Carnets simplify customs border crossing and cut red tape by allowing importers and exporters to use a single document for all customs formalities.

Armed with their ATA Carnet, salesmen, exhibitors, and other business travellers can:

- make advance customs arrangements at predetermined cost;
- visit more than one country;
- use their ATA Carnet for several trips during its one-year validity;
- return to their home country with their goods and without problems or delays.

Who else benefits?

- Trade shows and fairs that can more easily attract foreign exhibitors;
- the tourism and transport industries, as more business people travel;
- the entertainment industry and concert promoters;
- sports events like the Olympic Games;
- any country that wants to take full advantage of the global economy.



How to get an ATA Carnet

Carnets are issued exclusively through chambers of commerce and similar organizations affiliated to the ATA international guarantee chain. The World Chambers Federation (WCF), which brings together the chamber members of the Paris-based International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), is responsible for administering the chain.

The ICC website (www.iccwbo.org) is the Internet portal to the world of ATA Carnets. Click on the ATA Carnet icon to access the ATA Carnet website (www.atacarnets.org), which includes full details of the national organization responsible for issuing ATA Carnets in your country.

E-mail addresses, postal addresses, phone and fax numbers – everything is there on the ATA Carnet website, plus links to dedicated ATA Carnet pages in most countries in the guarantee chain. For any country in the list overleaf, the national member of the ATA guarantee chain can tell you where and how to obtain Carnets.



The cost of a Carnet

Fees vary according to the country. They are determined by the value of the goods, the number of countries to be visited, plus any additional costs for security, insurance or other services. Fees will always be a small fraction of the value of the goods covered by the Carnet.



How the ATA Carnet system works

The ATA Carnet system is a perfect illustration of how close cooperation between business and customs can facilitate international trade.

Each country in the ATA system has a single guaranteeing body approved by the national customs authorities and WCO. The guaranteeing organization is entitled to issue Carnets and to authorize local chambers on the national territory to deliver Carnets 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 – for example the sale instead of re-export of the goods.



The ATA Carnet operates under international customs conventions administered by the World Customs Organization (WCO).

A World ATA Carnet Council manages the system in cooperation with the WCO. The Council has set up regional task forces to promote the ATA Carnet in Africa, Asia and Pacific, Latin



America, eastern Europe and the Middle East.

Over the past 44 years the Carnet System has spread from a few western European countries to cover most of the industrialized world and a growing number of emerging economies. In 2006, approximately 158 000 Carnets were issued worldwide, covering goods valued at almost US\$ 15 billion.

Carnets are issued and accepted in these countries and territories

Algeria	Lebanon
Andorra	Lithuania
Australia	Luxembourg
Austria	Macedonia
Belarus	Malaysia
Belgium	Malta
Bulgaria	Mauritius
Canada	Mongolia
Chile	Morocco
China	Netherlands
Côte d'Ivoire	New Zealand
Croatia	Norway
Cyprus	Poland
Czech Republic	Portugal
Denmark	Romania
Estonia	Russia
Finland	Senegal
France	Serbia
Germany	Singapore
Gibraltar	Slovak Republic
Greece	Slovenia
Hong Kong, China	South Africa
Hungary	Spain
Iceland	Sri Lanka
India	Sweden
Iran	Switzerland
Ireland	Thailand
Israel	Tunisia
Italy	Turkey
Japan	United Kingdom
Korea (Republic of)	United States
Latvia	



The world business organization



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