SHIPPING LOW-VALUE GOODS TO CANADA BY COURIER



Shipping

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The Low-Value Shipment (LVS) courier program is a special, streamlined customs release process used by couriers when a shipment imported into Canada is valued at less than \$2,500. Couriers participate in this program offered by Canadian Customs so that they can gain expedited release across the border. Exporters who are eligible to use this program enjoy quick and efficient clearance across the Canadian border. Read on to find out about the process to see if it is right for your importing needs.

If you're shipping to Canada and using a courier service, there's a good chance your shipment is being cleared using this program. However, there are some goods that don't qualify. Any goods subject to Other Government Department (OGD) regulations, such as goods that require import permits, are not eligible for release under this program. Instead, they are subject to normal documentation and release procedures.

As long as your goods are not subject to OGD regulations, they will go through eight steps to clear Canadian Customs.

Eight steps to shipping goods under the Low-Value Shipment program

- You provide the courier with the necessary shipping and customs documents.
- The courier separates high-value shipments from low-value shipments for multiple importers. Then the courier generates a Consist List which is the cargo or release document that lists the shipments that have arrived at the port of entry with the courier.
- Before arriving at the border the courier provides copies of the Consist List to the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA). CBSA will choose to release the goods into Canada or keep them at the border for further examination.



If you are shipping goods with a value of less than \$2,500, you may be eligible for the Low Value Shipment (LVS) program.

- If CBSA has requested an examination of goods, the courier will make the goods available for inspection.
- If CBSA has approved the release of the shipment, the courier is free to deliver the goods to your Canadian customer.



- Your customs broker receives the consist list and other customs documents from the courier typically while the courier already en route to deliver the shipment to your Canadian customer.
- Your customs broker reviews the documents for accuracy and completeness.
- If there is missing or inaccurate information, your broker makes the necessary phone calls to the importer or exporter for additional information or clarification.

Contact Livingston

Have questions or need help with your shipments? Contact your account executive, write to us at: simplify@livingstonintl.com or give us a call at 1-800-837-1063

