



الهيئة الاتحادية للهوية
والجنسية والإجمارك وأمن المنافذ
FEDERAL AUTHORITY FOR IDENTITY,
CITIZENSHIP, CUSTOMS & PORT SECURITY



United Arab Emirates

Maritime Pre-load Cargo Information Program

National Advance Information Center

Webinar September 2025



National Advance Information Center

- Operates under the Federal Authority for Identity, Citizenship, Customs & Port Security.
- Established in 2012 as a federal initiative to collect advance passenger information, with operational launch in 2015.
- In 2016, its mandate expanded to include cargo, with cargo data collection officially launched in 2020.
- Launched the PLACI program in April 2024, focused on collecting pre-loading air cargo data from airlines.



What is Maritime preload cargo information program?

1

Requires submission of Bill of Lading data for containerized cargo prior to loading

2

Enhances risk management, improves data accuracy, facilitates trade flow, and supports regulatory compliance

3

Operates independently from existing Customs filing processes



MPCI Program Scope

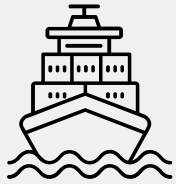
IN SCOPE

- Containerized Maritime Shipments
- Shipments inbound to the UAE
(import, transit, transshipment, FROB)

OUT OF SCOPE

- Non-containerized cargo:
 - Bulk cargo: dry-bulk, liquid-bulk and break-bulk shipments
 - RoRo
- Export shipments
- Wooden Vessels
- Empty Containers
- Crew's effects

Filing Liability



Shipping Line

**Master Bills of
Lading**

6 Hours
Pre-loading

**Direct Bills of
Lading**

24 Hours
Pre-loading

Filing can be
delegated to local or
overseas **shipping
agents**



Freight Forwarder/
NVOCC

**Master Co-
Loader Bill**

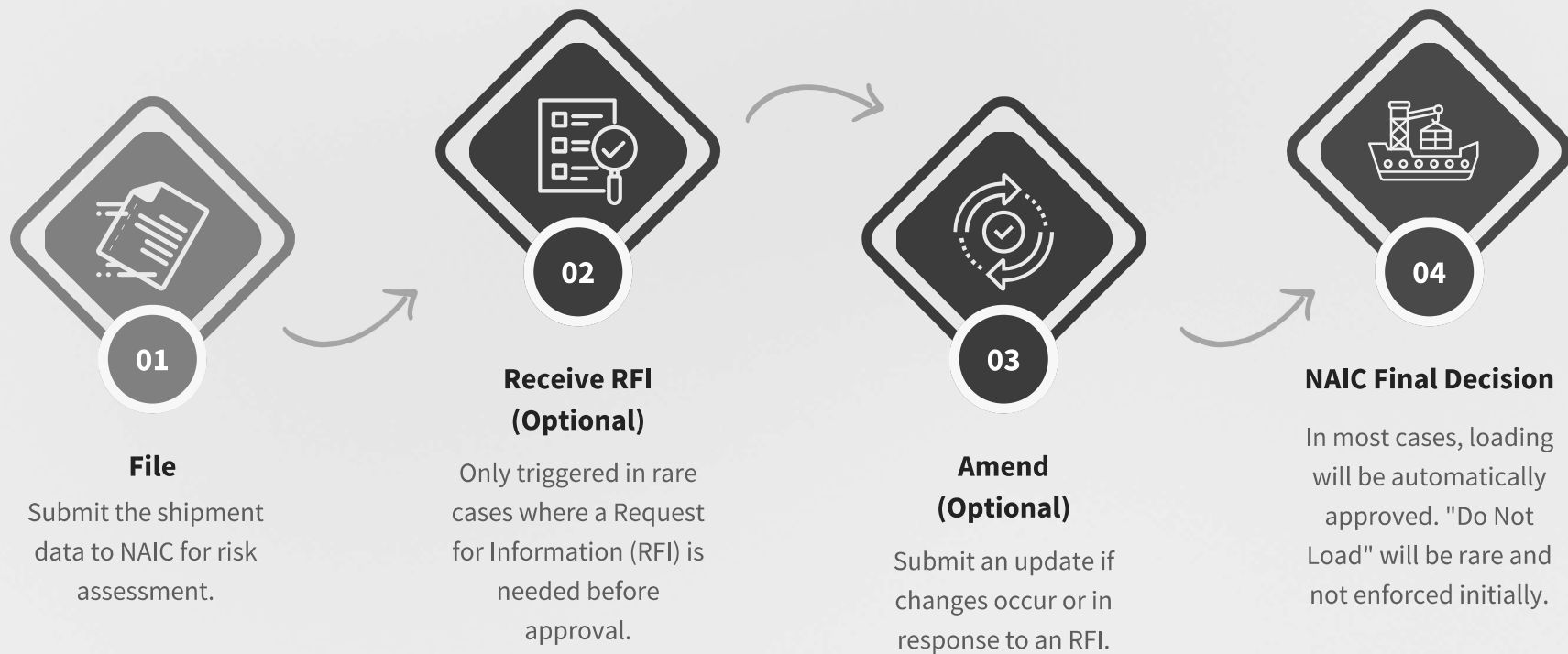
6 Hours
Pre-loading

**Lowest Level
House**

24 Hours
Pre-loading

Filing can be
delegated to local or
overseas **freight
forwarders**

Filing Business Process



Amendment Types

Only the initial submission must follow the communicated timelines, there's no time limit for amendments.



Standard Updates

Updates due to operational changes or corrections



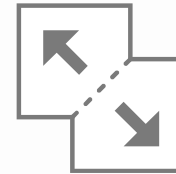
Response to RFI

Provide additional information requested by NAIC through an RFI message



Switch Bill

A switch bill of lading is issued to replace the original, reflecting changes in consignee, or shipper.



Split Bill

A shipment under one bill of lading is split across vessels or voyages, affecting master or house levels.



Cancellation

Full cancellation due to errors, misrouting, or client request.

01 Bill Information

Includes the Bill of Lading number, type (Direct or Consolidated), and status (New, Cancelled).



Vessel & Voyage Information 06

Such as vessel name, IMO number, voyage number, and ETA.
Required by Shipping Lines only



02 Negotiability

Indicates whether the bill is Negotiable or Non-Negotiable (i.e., issued To Order or to a named consignee).



Required Data Elements

Container & Seal Details 07

Includes container number, type, and seal number.



03 MPCl Codes

Includes the filer's MPCl code and, if applicable, MPCl codes of other responsible parties.



Goods & Packages Details 08

Such as goods description, HS Code, number and type of packages, weight, and volume.



04 Party Details

Includes names and addresses of the shipper, consignee, notify party, and delivery agent and other parties when applicable.



Related Bills 09

Includes count of associated house bills and reference to the parent bill, if applicable.



05 Port Information

Such as port of loading, port of discharge, transshipment ports, and final delivery location.



Other B/L Details 10

Such as the issue date and any other relevant optional information on the bill.



MPCI Code: How to get and Use



How to Obtain

- Shipping lines and freight forwarders receive their MPCI code **upon registration**.
- All **shipping line MPCI codes** are published on the NAIC **portal** for reference during filing.



Use in Related Bills

- **House filing:** Include MPCI code of the master filer (shipping line or master co-loader)
- **Master filing:** Include MPCI code of the freight forwarder expected to file the house



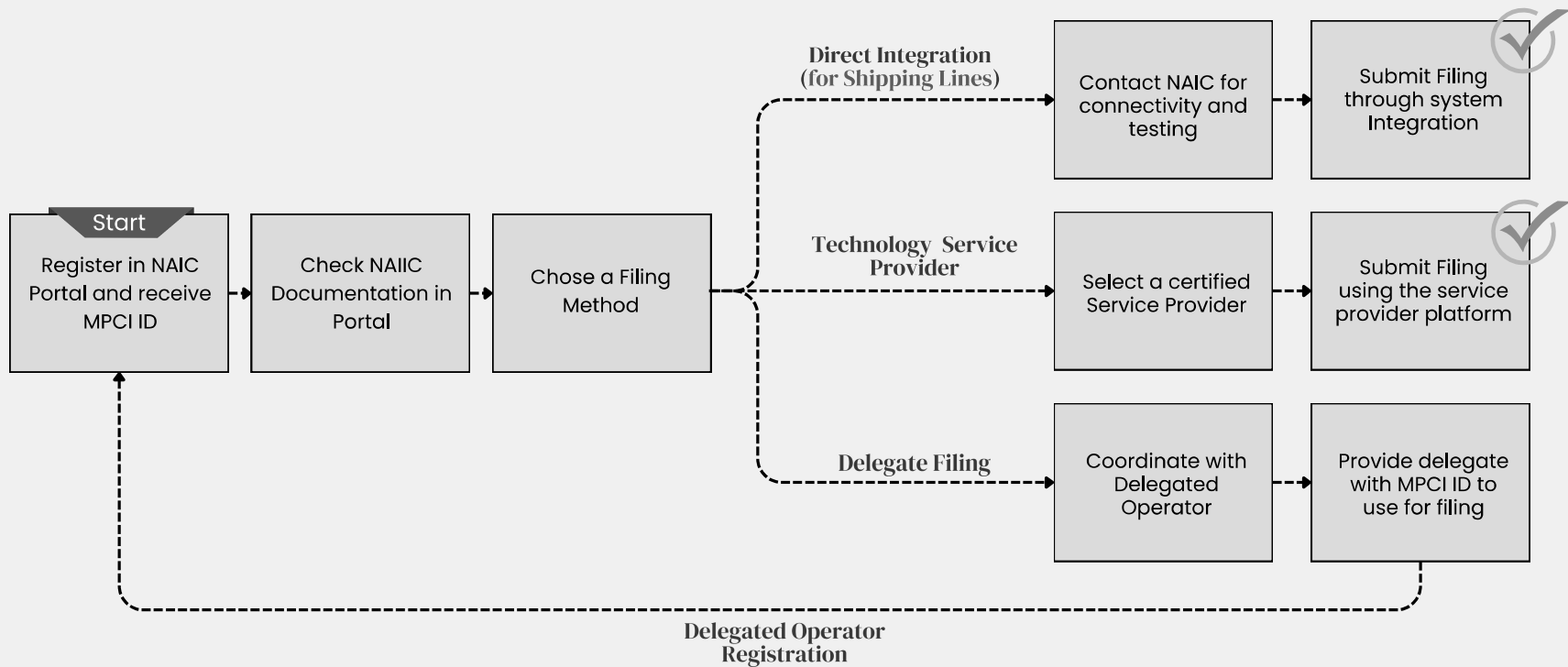
Delegation

Delegated **FFs** or **shipping agents** must provide:

- Their **own MPCI code**
- The **MPCI code** of the party they're **filing on behalf of**



How to File?



A grayscale photograph of a shipping yard. In the foreground, a worker wearing a hard hat and a safety vest is holding a handheld device. In the background, there are stacks of shipping containers and a forklift. The sky is cloudy.

STEP 1: REGISTRATION SHIPPING LINES

Shipping line Vs Shipping agent

Who needs to register?



Primary Filing Responsibility

- The **shipping line** as issuer of the master or direct bill of lading, is liable for filing.
- If a **shipping line** has **no UAE presence**, it may delegate responsibility to their **UAE shipping agent**.

Only Shipping Line need to register if:

- The shipping line has a licensed presence in the UAE.
- The line has the technical ability to file (directly or through a service provider).

Both Shipping Line & Agent need to Register if:

- The shipping line delegates filing or legal responsibility to an agent.
- Shipping agents cannot register without being delegated by one or more lines.



Shipping Line Registration Choose Your Role



The registration process begins by selecting the role that best matches your business activity.

- Select the **Shipping Line** role.
- If your company operates as both a **shipping line and a shipping agent**, you need to register **separately** for each role, and obtain separate **MPCI Codes**.

☐ Airline

If you are an air carrier and want to file for PLACI program, directly or through a technical service provider.

☐ Freight Forwarder/NVOCC

If you are a Local or overseas freight forwarder/NVOCC and want to file for MPCI program. Filing will be through one of the MPCI certified technical service providers.

☐ Express Courier

If you are an express courier and will be filing for PLACI program, directly or through a technical service provider.

☒ Shipping Line

If you are an ocean carrier (A company that owns or operates vessels) seeking to file for MPCI program. Filing can be done through direct integration or through one of the MPCI certified technical service providers.

☐ Shipping Agent

If you are a Local or overseas shipping agent liable or responsible for filing on behalf of an ocean carrier for MPCI program. Filing will be through one of the MPCI certified technical service providers.

☐ General Sales Agent

If you are a GSA responsible for filing on behalf of an airline that does not operate inside the UAE. And will be filing for PLACI program.



Registration Process

Pre-registration Questions



Before registration, the shipping line must confirm whether they will:

- **File** to NAIC but make the **shipping agent** legally **responsible**.
- Stay legally **responsible** but let the **agent** do the **filing**.
- **File** to NAIC and stay legally **responsible** (no agent needs to register).

Do you hold a valid business license in the UAE?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No, I have a shipping agent that handles my operations in the UAE

Will you handle the NAIC MPCl filing yourself, or will it be managed by the shipping agent?

- ☐ I will file to NAIC MPCl.
- ☐ The Shipping Agent will handle the filing.



Registration Process Company Details



Shipping lines list is predefined in NAIC portal using SMDG codes:

- SMDG is a **separate association**, not part of NAIC.
- If **not registered** with SMDG already:
 - Register directly with SMDG and obtain an SMDG code, **OR**
 - Send a request to NAIC to add you to the list.

Shipping line SMDG Code

[Not found?](#)

MIS - Malaysian International Shipping Company

MLL - Maersk Line, Limited

MRC - Mercosul

MSC - Mediterranean Shipping Company

MSK - Maersk

Country *



Registration Process Company Identification



Shipping lines can optionally provide TRN or license details.

On an **exceptional** basis, shipping lines may also file **on behalf** of other lines.

- This must be **coordinated directly** with NAIC via email for guidance.

Tax Registration Number (TRN)

Local License Number

License Issuing Authority

License Document

Choose File

No file chosen

Emirate

Will you handle the filing on behalf of another shipping lines?

☐ Yes

☐ No

A grayscale photograph of a shipping yard. In the foreground, a worker wearing a hard hat and a high-visibility vest is holding a handheld device. The background shows rows of stacked shipping containers and a forklift in the distance. The sky is cloudy.

STEP 1: REGISTRATION SHIPPING AGENT



Shipping Agent Registration

Choose Your Role

The registration process begins by selecting the role that best matches your business activity.

- Select the **Shipping Agent** role.
- If your company operates as both a **shipping agent** and **freight forwarder/NVOCC**, you may select **both roles**, and obtain **one MPCl Code**.

☐ Airline

If you are an air carrier and want to file for PLACI program, directly or through a technical service provider.

☐ Freight Forwarder/NVOCC

If you are a Local or overseas freight forwarder/NVOCC and want to file for MPCl program. Filing will be through one of the MPCl certified technical service providers.

☐ Express Courier

If you are an express courier and will be filing for PLACI program, directly or through a technical service provider.

☐ Shipping Line

If you are an ocean carrier (A company that owns or operates vessels) seeking to file for MPCl program. Filing can be done through direct integration or through one of the MPCl certified technical service providers.

☒ Shipping Agent

If you are a Local or overseas shipping agent liable or responsible for filing on behalf of an ocean carrier for MPCl program. Filing will be through one of the MPCl certified technical service providers.

☐ General Sales Agent

If you are a GSA responsible for filing on behalf of an airline that does not operate inside the UAE. And will be filing for PLACI program.



Registration Process

Pre-registration Questions



To register as a shipping agent, you must be delegated by a shipping line to either act as their legal representative or to file on their behalf.

As a shipping agent, are you legally liable to NAIC for filing or responsible for handling filings on behalf of shipping lines in the UAE?

☒

Yes

☐

No



Registration Process Company Details



Enter the main company information:

- If you operate as both a **shipping agent** and a **freight forwarder/NVOCC**, you only need to provide the details once.
- For **multiple offices** in the UAE, you may either:
 - Register **once** using the details of the **main office** and obtain **one MPCl code**, or
 - Register **each office separately** and obtain **multiple MPCl codes**.

Company Name *

Field Is Required

📄 As per the local license.

Address *

Field Is Required

Website

Emirate *

Abu Dhabi



Registration Process Company Identification



- Shipping agents **must** enter **local license** details and attach the license document.
- Shipping agents **must** specify whether they operate in **free zone** or **mainland**.

Do You Hold a Tax Registration Number (TRN) in UAE?

☐ Yes ☐ Not yet, registration in progress

Tax Registration Number (TRN) *

Local License Number

License Issuing Authority *

License Document

No file chosen

Operation Zone

☐ Free Zone ☐ Mainland



Registration Process Shipping Agent Delegation



When registering, shipping agents must select the shipping lines/NVOCCs they will file for:

- Agents can add multiple shipping lines/NVOCCs.
- If a shipping line is not listed, advise them to register with NAIC/SMDG first.
- NVOCCs must register with NAIC before delegating an agent.

Choose Entity Type

☒ Shipping line ☐ NVOCC

Shipping line

Will you handle the filing on behalf of this entity?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you legally liable to NAIC on behalf of this entity?

☐ No ☐ I legally represent the shipping line in:

☐ Abu Dhabi

☐ Ajman

☐ Dubai

☐ Fujairah

☐ Ras Al-Khaimah

☐ Sharjah

☐ Umm al-Quwain

⊕ Add Another Shipping Line / NVOCC

A grayscale photograph of a shipping yard. In the foreground, a worker wearing a hard hat and a high-visibility vest is holding a handheld device. The background shows rows of stacked shipping containers and a forklift in the distance. The sky is cloudy.

STEP 1: REGISTRATION NVOCC/FREIGHT FORWARDER

Local Vs Overseas Freight forwarder

Who needs to register?



Primary Filing Responsibility

- The local freight forwarder that **issues** the bill of lading, or is the **counterpart** of the bill issuer in the UAE is liable for filing.
- Local freight forwarders **must register**, even if they delegate all filing activities to overseas freight forwarders.

Only Local FF needs to register if:

- They are not delegating filing to an overseas FF, **or**
- The overseas FF is a branch of the same company.

Both foreign and local freight forwarder need to Register if:

- The local FF delegates filing to an overseas FF.

Note:

Foreign FF can register without mentioning the local FF MPCID, but cannot file without mentioning it.



FF/NVOCC Registration

Choose Your Role



The registration process begins by selecting the role that best matches your business activity.

- Select the **freight forwarder/NVOCC** role.
- If your company operates as both a **shipping agent** and **freight forwarder/NVOCC**, you may select **both roles**, and obtain **one MPCl Code**.

☐ Airline

If you are an air carrier and want to file for PLACI program, directly or through a technical service provider.

☒ Freight Forwarder/NVOCC

If you are a Local or overseas freight forwarder/NVOCC and want to file for MPCl program. Filing will be through one of the MPCl certified technical service providers.

☐ Express Courier

If you are an express courier and will be filing for PLACI program, directly or through a technical service provider.

☐ Shipping Line

If you are an ocean carrier (A company that owns or operates vessels) seeking to file for MPCl program. Filing can be done through direct integration or through one of the MPCl certified technical service providers.

☐ Shipping Agent

If you are a Local or overseas shipping agent liable or responsible for filing on behalf of an ocean carrier for MPCl program. Filing will be through one of the MPCl certified technical service providers.

☐ General Sales Agent

If you are a GSA responsible for filing on behalf of an airline that does not operate inside the UAE. And will be filing for PLACI program.



Registration Process

Pre-registration Questions



For the time being, registration (and filing) is not required if:

- You are a **freight forwarder** with **no legal presence** in the UAE and have **not been delegated** by a local freight forwarder.
- If the **office** you are representing will **not** be **liable** for filing.
- You are a **freight forwarder** who does **not** **operate** in **sea or ocean** freight.

Do you have an office or local presence in UAE?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Which modes of transport do you operate in? (Select all that apply)

☐ Air

☒ Sea

☐ Land

As a freight forwarder, will your office be liable for filing to NAIC MPCl, or will another local office in the UAE be liable?

☒ Yes, my office will be liable for filing

☐ Another local office will be liable for filing.



Registration Process Company Details



Enter the main company information:

- If you operate as both a **shipping agent** and a **freight forwarder/NVOCC**, you only need to provide the details once.
- For **multiple offices** in the UAE, you may either:
 - Register **once** using the details of the **main office** and obtain **one MPCl code**, or
 - Register **each office separately** and obtain **multiple MPCl codes**.

Company Name *

Field Is Required

📄 As per the local license.

Address *

Field Is Required

Website

Emirate *

Abu Dhabi



Registration Process Company Identification



- Freight forwarders/NVOCCs **must** enter **local license** details and attach the license document.
- Freight forwarders/NVOCCs **must** specify whether they operate in **free zone** or **mainland**.

Do You Hold a Tax Registration Number (TRN) in UAE?

☐ Yes ☐ Not yet, registration in progress

Tax Registration Number (TRN) *

Local License Number

License Issuing Authority *

License Document

No file chosen

Operation Zone

☐ Free Zone ☐ Mainland



Registration Process

FF/NVOCC Business Type



As a freight forwarder you need to specify the type of operations you are handling.

Business Type

- ☐ FCL Handler ⓘ
- ☐ LCL Consolidator (Master co-loader) ⓘ
- ☐ Sub Co-Loader ⓘ
- ☐ NVOCC ⓘ
- ☐ Other (Please Specify)



Registration Process

Freight Forwarder Delegation

Each freight forwarder can choose one of the following delegation options:

- **Disabled** – No other freight forwarder can file on their behalf
- **Enabled for All** – Any FF with their MPCID code can file on their behalf
- **Enabled for Selected FFs** – Selected FFs must first register, obtain an MPCID code, and share it with the local FF.

Delegation Status *

Enabled for selected Freight Forwarder ▼

Disabled

Enabled for All

Enabled for selected Freight Forwarder ✓

Delegated Freight Forwarders MPCID Codes *

A grayscale photograph of a shipping yard. In the foreground, a worker wearing a hard hat and a high-visibility vest is pointing towards the background. The background is filled with stacks of shipping containers. A forklift is visible in the distance. The sky is cloudy.

STEP 1: REGISTRATION COMMON STEPS



Registration Process

Enter Contact details



Enter your contact details.

- **MPCI contact** is used for **business communication** (e.g., RFI), ensure it's up to date.
- Optionally, add a **technical support contact** if different from MPCl contact.

NAIC PLACI/MPCI Contact details

Email Address *

Phone Number *

Country *

Technical Support Contact Details

Would you like to use the PLACI/MPCI contact information for technical support purposes as well?

☐

Yes

☐

No



Registration Process

Enter Admin details



Enter the portal administrator details:

- **Email** will be verified using **OTP**, and will be used for any **communication** regarding **registration**.
- Once you submit the request an **OTP** will be received by email, follow the link to **verify your e-mail**.
- User **name** and **password** will be used to **login** to the NAIC portal **once approved**.
- You will receive **a confirmation email** once your request is **submitted** for **approval**.

First Name *

Last Name *

Email Address *

Emirates Id

Passport

Username *

Password





Registration Process Submission and Approval



Once all required details are entered:

- The registration request is then **reviewed** by NAIC.
- Upon approval, another **confirmation email** including the **MPCI code** will be sent to the admin email address.
- The company is now **ready** to begin filing.
- The admin user can **add** additional **users after approval**.

Thank you for joining us. Your registration request is approved.

you can now start using the NAIC Portal at the following link:

<https://naic.icp.gov.ae/>

Your MPCI Party ID has been generated and is provided below:

MPCI Party ID:

For support, please [contact us](#).

A grayscale photograph of a shipping yard. In the foreground, a worker wearing a hard hat and safety vest is holding a handheld device. The background shows rows of stacked shipping containers and a forklift in the distance. The sky is cloudy.

STEP 2: CHECK DOCUMENTATION

References & Documentation

NAIC Website

<https://naic.icp.gov.ae/>

Program details, registration, and resources.

Documentation & Guidelines

<https://naic.icp.gov.ae/portal/mpci/guide-lines>

- **Business Specifications Document:** Business process, requirements, filing timelines
- **Message Implementation Guide (MIG):** Integration details, EDIFACT format, data elements
- **Onboarding Guide:** Registration steps and onboarding process

FAQs

<https://naic.icp.gov.ae/portal/mpci/faqs>

Common questions and clarifications

Support

Email: [**mpci.inquiries@icp.gov.ae**](mailto:mpci.inquiries@icp.gov.ae)

A grayscale photograph of a shipping yard. In the foreground, a worker wearing a hard hat and a safety vest is holding a handheld device. The background shows rows of stacked shipping containers and a forklift in the distance. The sky is cloudy.

STEP 3: CHOOSE A FILING METHOD

Filing Methods

Filing directly through NAIC portal is not supported.

Direct Integration (Shipping Lines & TSPs)

- Contact NAIC to arrange implementation and testing
- EDIFACT Standard filing format used
- Review MIG for structure and NAIC requirements

Technology Service providers (All operators)

- Select a certified service provider.
- Multiple filing methods:
 - Through system to system integration
 - Attachment
 - Form filling

TMS Service providers (All Operators)

- Bill of Lading data is already available in the TMS/ERP
- Submit the filing to NAIC and add any required details

A grayscale photograph of a shipping yard. In the background, there are stacks of shipping containers. A forklift is visible in the middle ground. In the foreground, a person wearing a hard hat and a safety vest is holding a walkie-talkie and pointing towards the containers. The text "STEP 3: CHOOSE A SERVICE PROVIDER" is overlaid in the center of the image.

STEP 3: CHOOSE A SERVICE PROVIDER

How to find a service provider

Choose a certified service provider from the list found in the below link:

<https://naic.icp.gov.ae/portal/mpci/service-providers>



Click on the links to reach the service provider website and find contact information

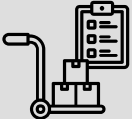


- Please check this link regularly, as **additional service providers** are being certified.
- Your chosen **provider will guide you** through onboarding and advise on the best submission method (manual entry, Excel upload, or system integration).
- Any **fees** are agreed **directly** with the **service provider**, **NAIC is not involved** in any commercial or financial arrangements.

STEP 4: FILE

What MPCl codes should be provided during filing

You must provide your **own MPCl ID** plus the additional IDs based on your role (when applicable):

 Local Freight Forwarder		 Foreign Freight Forwarder		 NVOCC	
Delegator MPCl IDs	Related MPCl IDs	Delegator MPCl IDs	Related MPCl IDs	Delegator MPCl IDs	Related MPCl IDs
<i>N/A</i>	• MBL Issuer (Shipping Line or NVOCC)	• Local FF	• MBL Issuer (Shipping Line or NVOCC)	• Shipping Agent OR • Local FF	• MBL Issuer • Sub co-loader

 Shipping Line		 Shipping Agent	
Delegator MPCl IDs	Related MPCl IDs	Delegator MPCl IDs	Related MPCl IDs
• Shipping Agent (if Liable only)	• Child Bill Issuer • Operating Carrier	• Shipping Line	• Child Bill Issuer • Operating Carrier

A grayscale photograph of a container yard. In the foreground, a worker wearing a hard hat and a high-visibility vest is pointing towards the stacks of containers. The background shows tall stacks of shipping containers and a forklift in the distance. The sky is cloudy.

PROGRAM TIMELINES

Go Live Date & Grace Period

31
JULY
2025

MPCI System Go-Live

Ocean Carriers & Freight forwarders
can start filing to NAIC

31
MARCH
2026

Grace Period

Grace period for the industry to meet
the MPCI requirement

During Grace Period:

- No penalties or enforcement actions will be applied
- All shipments filed will receive an “Assessment Complete” (AC) response
- There will be no RFI or Do Not Load (DNL) responses issued

A grayscale photograph of a shipping yard. In the foreground, a worker wearing a hard hat and a safety vest is pointing towards the background. The background is filled with stacks of shipping containers. A forklift is visible in the middle ground. The sky is cloudy.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does “filing 6 or 24 hours before loading at the last port before UAE” mean? Is it the origin port or the transshipment port?

The timeline applies to the last loading port before the UAE. For example, if cargo originates in China but transships in Singapore, the deadline is based on Singapore (the last foreign loading port), not China.

These are the latest possible deadlines, but you are encouraged to file earlier (e.g., before loading at origin) to secure approval in advance and avoid operational delays.

If a shipment is carried by a shipping line and handled by an NVOCC who co-loads with another freight forwarder, who is responsible for filing?

Each bill is filed by its issuer (or their liable UAE counterpart). The shipping line (or its agent) files the master bill, the NVOCC (or its UAE counterpart FF) files the NVOCC bill, and the foreign forwarder (or its UAE counterpart) files the house bill. Liability always rests with the UAE entity, which may delegate the foreign party to file on its behalf.

As a freight forwarder or NVOCC, can I file the master bill? As a shipping line, can I file the house bills?

Freight forwarders cannot file shipping line issued bills, and shipping lines cannot file forwarder-issued bills.

NVOCCs may exceptionally file the master bill only when a feeder vessel issues a service bill and the actual master is issued by the NVOCC.

If the shipment is FROB or transshipment with no local UAE freight forwarder involved (only a foreign one), am I still responsible for filing as a freight forwarder?

No. For FROB or transshipment shipments with final destination outside the UAE, only the shipping line is responsible for filing.

If the shipment is FROB or transshipment with no freight forwarder involved, can I as a shipping line file it as a direct bill?

Yes. FROB and transshipment shipments with destination outside the UAE can be filed as direct bills by the shipping line, even if a related house bill exists.

As a shipping line, what should I do if I don't know whether a shipment is consolidated, or the freight forwarder is not registered with NAIC?

Freight forwarders must indicate consolidation status in the shipping instructions, and all FFs are required to register by the end of the grace period. Alignment issues may occur during the grace period, but they are expected to be resolved within this time.

What if the vessel carries other master bills that I did not issue as a shipping line?

Each master bill must be filed by its issuer (or its UAE agent), regardless of the vessel operator. The vessel operator is referenced in the filing but they are not responsible for bills they did not issue.

As a shipping line, how can I obtain an NVOCC/Freight Forwarder MPCID ID? As a freight forwarder, NVOCC, or shipping agent, how can I obtain the shipping line's MPCID ID?

NVOCC and freight forwarder MPCID IDs must be obtained directly from the respective party. Shipping line MPCID IDs are published and available on the NAIC portal.

What if a vessel changes its route at the last minute?

In exceptional cases, you may file once it is confirmed the vessel is calling the UAE.
Provide justification for the delay, and the filing will be processed without issue.

A grayscale photograph of a container yard. In the foreground, a worker wearing a hard hat and safety vest is pointing towards the containers. In the background, a forklift is visible among stacks of shipping containers. The sky is cloudy.

THANK YOU