

iv. The completed ASHI form is then validated and issued online to the shipper or his agent/forwarder appropriately (with all the information available in real time on the Ghana Shippers' Authority's database).

### NOTE

- The ASHI would be a pre-requisite for clearing of goods at the ports in Ghana, therefore consignees/clearing agents must ensure that their forwarders/shippers provide them with the ASHI details.

### ASHI FEES

IMPORT Cargo Type	ASHI Fee
Bulk	€ 20 per 300mt / BL
Conventional Cargo	€ 20 per 100mt / BL
Containerized Cargo	€ 20 per 4TEUs / BL
Vehicles (Less than 5mt)	€ 20 per 3Units / BL
Vehicles (5mt or more)	€ 20 per BL

mt : Metric Tons  
 TEU: Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit  
 BL: Bill of Lading

For further information, contact:  
 Ghana Shippers' Authority  
 P. O. Box 1321, Accra.  
 Tel: 0302-666915  
 Email: [info@shippers.org.gh](mailto:info@shippers.org.gh)  
 Website: [www.shippers.org.gh](http://www.shippers.org.gh)



## IMPLEMENTATION OF ADVANCE SHIPMENT INFORMATION (ASHI) SYSTEM IN GHANA

GHANA SHIPPERS' AUTHORITY  
 Providing Shipping Solutions

## INTRODUCTION

The Ghana Shippers' Authority (SHIPERS) has been at the frontline of Ghana's maritime industry since its establishment in 1974 by NRCDC 254. It has over the years collaborated with private and public organizations in the maritime industry to pursue its primary objective of protecting and promoting the interests of shippers in Ghana, in relation to port, ship and inland transport problems in order to ensure safe, reliable and cost effective cargo transportation.

In 2012, the Ghana Shippers' Authority Regulations (L.I.2190) was passed to give vent to the Authority's Establishment Law, NRCDC 254. As part of the provisions in the Regulations, the Authority is mandated to provide relevant shipment information through the Advance Shipment Information (ASHI) system.

The ASHI is an electronic platform by which relevant shipment information is received in advance of vessel arrival in Ghana to enable pre-arrival clearance processes. This is to help minimize the cost of clearing cargo at the ports by way of reducing the delay and the attendant high demurrage and rent charges. Studies conducted by the Authority in 2013 indicated that shippers paid about US\$75 million in demurrage charges and about GHC30 million in rent charges. These costs resulted from delays in clearing cargo at the ports.

To assist shippers save cost and speed up clearing at the ports, the Authority has initiated the process of deploying the ASHI system which will provide shippers and agencies in the clearance process with advance information on their shipments.

## BENEFITS OF ASHI

- Provision of relevant shipment information to shippers in Ghana in real time for the pre-arrival clearance processes. Thus avoiding the payment of huge demurrage and rent charges.
- Building of accurate databases on relevant shipment information such as product costs, freight charges, surcharges, etc for the negotiation of charges and conditions of shipment with the shipping service providers, on behalf of shippers in Ghana, as prescribed by L.I.2190.
- Notification to shippers of vessel arrival times and cargo locations at the ports via personalized text messages and by telephone calls for early commencement of clearance processes.
- Provision of advance shipment information to Port Authorities, Terminal Operators, etc. for adequate planning and preparation ahead of ship arrival in port, to enhance efficiency.

- Provision of relevant shipment information in advance of vessel arrival to allow for adequate risk management processes by Destination Inspection Companies, Customs and other relevant agencies, to lessen intrusive inspections and for also securing Government revenue in duties and taxes through data quality assurance activities.

## HOW DOES ASHI WORK?

- i The shipper or his agent/forwarder (at the exporting country) would first register on a web portal ([www.antaser.com](http://www.antaser.com)), and provide all relevant business information. [Note that agents/forwarders are already using this or similar systems for shipments to other countries]
- ii The registered shipper or his agent/forwarder then completes an ASHI form online at the web portal and attaches the requisite documents.
- iii Documents to be attached to the ASHI form include copies of the following:

Commercial Invoice  
Packing List  
Bill of Lading  
Export Custom Declaration  
Freight Invoice