



NRA Management System (NRAMS)

An all-inclusive solution for NRA management in full compliance with FMC regulations

What are NRAs?

The FMC implemented a new filing option in April 2011 – the Negotiated Rate Arrangement or NRA. This new ruling offers an exemption for qualified NVOCCs from filing and publishing tariff rates in their FMC tariff. An NRA is a written agreement between an NVOCC and an NRA Shipper used to document the agreed rate for the shipment or shipments of a specific cargo quantity. NRAs may act as a substitute for tariff rate filings – rates filed as NRAs do not need to be filed into your FMC tariff.

What is required to file NRAs?

In order to qualify and begin filing NRAs, the FMC requires NVOCCs be licensed by the FMC, with posted notice in your FMC tariff and bills of lading indicating your company's use of the NRA filing option. You must also end all tariff access charges to your rules tariff, which must remain available to the shipping public. DPI NVOCC customers with a valid OTI license may quickly qualify by filing DPI's suggested [NRA Rule](#) into their tariff. All other qualification requirements are satisfied by DPI's standard services provided to our customers.

Regarding the requirements for NRA Filing, qualified NVOCCs must:

- Create NRA Offers in compliance with FMC regulations and offer to the NRA Shipper.
- Agree to an NRA in writing with the NRA Shipper before receiving the cargo.
- Maintain all NRA documentation on file for 5 years for FMC review and audit.

NVOCCs are required to adhere to the FMC regulations regarding the creation and maintenance of these NRAs. See [FMC Docket 10-03: Non-Vessel-Operating Common Carrier Negotiated Rate Arrangements](#) for full details.

How can DPI help with these requirements?

We are pleased to offer our **NRA Management System (NRAMS)** to assist our Members with these requirements. Our NRAMS provides a menu driven procedure for creating new NRAs via a web browser, offering these to shippers, obtaining shipper acceptance, and updating status. It maintains NRA history in a secure database with appropriate data security. It works together with your tariff rules to provide you with everything required to satisfy the FMC requirements.

Please see the following page for more details and how NRAMS can provide significant cost savings for your company.



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An all-inclusive service:

NRAMS is an all inclusive service –it provides all of the necessary tools to complete the NRA process. NRAMS allows you to create, offer, and manage your NRAs efficiently and with confidence.

A few of the NRAMS features:

- Create and manage NRAs on a user-friendly web based platform.
- Offer and confirm NRAs to clients via automated emails.
- Maintain correspondence and NRA history automatically on our secure servers.
- Automated email reminders for pending and expiring NRAs and NRA offers.
- NRA Shipper management system for easy storage and retrieval of shipper customer information.

All of the features of NRAMS help you manage your NRA procedures efficiently while satisfying FMC regulations.

Cost Savings:

NRAMS offers attractive cost savings to many NVOCCs. Traditional tariff rate filing is charged per commodity item filed, which includes up to ten rates in a specified commodity per day. Meanwhile, NRAMS offers unlimited use for a fixed annual fee. NVOCC customers who file more than a few commodity items per month can enjoy significant cost savings.

As an example, please see sample NVOCC “Shipping Company, Inc.”, a smaller company which files 36 commodity rates throughout the year (only 3 per month). The scenario below breaks out their costs comparing traditional tariff rate filing to NRAMS.

	Rate Basis	Annual Cost
Traditional Tariff Rate Filing	USD 14 per commodity rate filing	USD 504
NRA Management System (NRAMS)	Fixed Annual Fee	USD 396

Even smaller operation NVOCCs which file only a few commodity rates per month will benefit from the cost savings provided by NRAMS. Many NVOCCs file more than 3 rates per month and will enjoy even greater cost savings by filing NRAs using DPI’s NRAMS system.

Many DPI customers continue to file and manage NRAs daily using this system. If you have any questions about this new filing option, please contact us here at DPI and we will be happy to assist.



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