# **Despacho Previo**

The term "Despacho Previo" means "Pre-documented." The objective of it is to make that all the units that arrive the US Border are ready to interchange into Mexico preventing congestion and expediting the interchange of cars avoiding set out units not cleared for export.

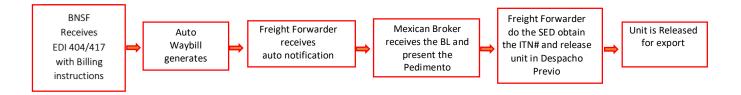
The Mexican Customs Broker and the Shipper's Agent (Freight Forwarder) at the border must have completed all required documentation prior to the railcar being exported into Mexico.

This requirement includes:

- Pedimento by Mexican Broker (payment of taxes and submit documents required by Mexican Government agencies)

- Freight must be paid.

- The Shipper's Agent (Freight Forwarder) must have submitted the Shipper's Export Declaration, get the ITN# and release the unit in Despacho Previo



U.S. railroads have each published a version of a 'Despacho Previo' tariff, the tariff provides for notification of the Shipper's designated Freight Forwarder at the border and specifies the time period allowed to get the unit documented to export to Mexico. Any Document Delay Charge due must be paid in Despacho Previo tool (Mastercard/Visa Credit card) prior to the railcar being released for export.

### **Despacho Previo Rules**

BNSF Rules book 6100 item 3140G - Document Delay Charges on Export Traffic to Mexico

Carload shipments moving from the United States to Mexico via any Texas-Mexico border crossing points are subject to the following provisions:

### A. Calculation of Charges:

Forty-eight (48) hours free time will be allowed for the completion of all documentation required for the legal exportation from the United States and for importation of a shipment into Mexico. Carload shipments originating in Arkansas, Arizona, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas will be allowed twenty-four (24) hours free time.

Free time will be computed from the first 12:01 a.m. after "Despacho Previo" (see note) notification. Sundays and holidays will be excluded in the computation of free time.

Note: Despacho Previo is a Mexican Customs' program to pre-document exports from the United States into Mexico prior to the interchange of cars to a Mexican railroad.

Following the expiration of free time, a Document Delay charge will be assessed until the car is released for entry into Mexico. The document delay charge will be \$75 per car, per day, or fraction thereof for the first three days. Thereafter, the document delay charge will be \$150 per car, per day. An additional \$500 charge will be assessed at the time of release of the shipment, if at the time of the release the shipment for export,

- a. The railcar is physically located within 50 miles of the station where the car will enter into Mexico, and
- b. the free time has expired.

Sundays and holidays occurring subsequent to the expiration of free time will be chargeable days.

## B. Notification and Release:

"Despacho Previo" notification will be sent or given by BNSF to the consignee, or party designated by the shipper to receive same, after unit enters the BNSF computer system through customer shipping instructions or receipt of an interline waybill from connecting carriers.

Cars will be considered to be "released" for entry into Mexico when all of the following requirements have been met: All freight and accessorial charges due BNSF have been paid;

All requirements to legally export the shipment from the United States to Mexico have been met, and the required documents are furnished to BNSF;

All requirements to legally import the shipments into Mexico have been met and proof furnished to BNSF; and

Shipping instructions have been received by the Mexican rail carrier.

### C. Holidays:

The following United States and Mexican holidays will be recognized as holidays in the computation of free time:

New Year's Day	January 1
Constitution Day	During February
Birthday of Benito Juarez	During March
Good Friday	Friday before Easter Sunday
Labor Day	May 1
Independence Day	September 16
Anniversary of Mexican Revolution	During November
Christmas Day	December 25