

Product Information

Descartes FMC DocCenter™



Descartes FMC DocCenter™ - Centralized Online Document Center for Managing Your Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) Tariff Filings.

The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) published a new rule, effective April 18, 2011, whereby “Licensed Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers (NVOCCs) entering into Negotiated Rate Arrangements (NRAs) with their customers will be exempted from the requirement of publishing their rates in publicly accessible tariffs, so long as they meet several conditions”, including:

An NVOCC must maintain:

“... original NRAs and all associated records, including written communications, in an organized, readily accessible or retrievable manner for 5 years from the completion date of performance of the NRA, in a format easily produced to the Commission”.

An NVOCC must be able to:

“... produce the requested NRAs and associated records, including written communications, promptly in response to a Commission request. Furthermore, all records produced must be in English or be accompanied by a certified English translation”.

An NVOCC may be disqualified from the operation of the exemption if they:

“... fail to keep or timely produce original NRAs and associated records and written communications”.

The Descartes FMC DocCenter was developed to help ensure compliance with the documentation and retention requirements listed above. This web-based solution allows licensed NVOCCs to simplify and centralize their FMC rate filing activities.

Features

5-year Record Retention – Upload NRA-related documents to Descartes' system for safe and secure storage for 5 years with the comfort of knowing Descartes has been the leader in FMC solutions for over 20 years.

One Central Location, Multiple Solutions – The Descartes FMC DocCenter supports NSA, NRA, governing rule and tariff rate document uploads. This provides the ability for NVOCCs to go to one location to manage their FMC compliance activities. Documents to be filed into one of Descartes' other FMC solutions are tagged and submitted into a workflow, with NVOCCs able to search and check on the status of these documents - with the convenience of only one login. No emails, no phone calls, just upload and go.

Simple, Web-based Document Uploading – Web-based forms allow users to quickly and easily upload documentation related to a specific compliance activity and in multiple formats. Users can quickly and securely upload Word, Excel, PDF, emails or other relevant documents for memorialization or processing. Login, click the right document type and upload.

Easy, yet Powerful Search Capabilities – The Descartes FMC DocCenter provides fast and efficient search capabilities to review previously submitted filings. Search documents by customer, date or other related fields. The web-based solution allows an NVOCC with current login credentials to securely retrieve and download NRAs from anywhere in the world.

Customer Benefits

The Descartes FMC DocCenter provides the following benefits:

Cost Savings reduces the cost associated with the memorialization of Negotiated Rate Arrangements by providing a secure, web-based solution for record keeping.

Provides Global Access to memorialized rates for designated users within an NVOCC's organization.

Safe and Secure Storage fulfilling the FMC 5-year record retention requirements.

Increased Speed and Efficiency allowing NVOCCs to manage their FMC compliance activities within one easy-to-use webbased solution.

Paperless Document Storage – The Descartes DocCenter supports paperless document storage thereby helping companies reduce their environmental impact.