

United States Consumer Product Safety Commission Office of Import Surveillance eFiling Implementation Newsletter

Fiscal Year 2024 Quarter 3 | Volume Four

Top Things to Know 🧩

- CPSC has begun accepting registration requests for the <u>eFiling</u> <u>voluntary stage</u> starting in Summer 2024 for interested importers to begin testing eFiling systems.
- CPSC is providing Product Registry access to software developers for API integration purposes.
- Staff anticipates that full implementation of eFiling will occur in or around 2025.
- Visit the eFiling webpage at <u>www.CPSC.gov/eFiling</u> and sign up for our mailing list.

The eFiling Voluntary Stage is Coming Soon...

CPSC will begin the eFiling voluntary stage in Summer 2024 after the Beta Pilot ends in June to allow up to 2,000 additional importers to test eFiling systems. The eFiling voluntary stage will serve as an opportunity for interested importers and their trade partners that were not part of the Beta Pilot to gain access to the CPSC Product Registry and begin eFiling PGA Message Sets.

CPSC published a Federal Register Notice on June 4, 2024 to announce CPSC's intent to allow additional importers to begin testing eFiling systems prior to full implementation. An official start date for the eFiling voluntary stage will be announced following the 60-day comment period that is underway following the Federal Register Notice. Be advised that importer access to the Product Registry will be provided on a first-come, first-served, limited basis based on CPSC's development capacity.



Staff anticipates that eFiling full implementation will occur in or around 2025. We have received questions about whether the Beta Pilot has been extended for three years based on the recent Federal Register Notice regarding expansion of the Beta Pilot (89 FR 47922 (June 4, 2024)). Please note that CPSC staff is referring to this "expansion of the Beta Pilot" as the "eFiling voluntary stage." The three-year period stated in the Federal Register Notice in connection to the Beta Pilot refers to the Information Collection Control Number that must be approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB); three years is the default length of time that any Information Collection by a government agency lasts, and must be renewed if the Information Collection is on-going after that period, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. It is not the planned life of the Beta Pilot.

CPSC has begun accepting registration requests for the eFiling voluntary stage to generate a waitlist. Staff highly recommends that importers reach out as soon as possible to initiate their request to gain access to the Product Registry.

To receive an invitation to establish a Business Account in the Product Registry, <u>importers</u> can email <u>eFilingSupport@cpsc.gov</u> with:

- 1. Company Name
- 2. Initial Business Account Administrator's Name
- 3. Initial Business Account Administrator's Email
- 4. Importer of Record Number(s)
- 5. Broker Filer Code(s)
- 6. Type of Products Imported

Please note that Business Accounts must be created by the **importer** because they are the certifying party that maintains responsibility for product certification. Once the importer creates an account, they can invite additional users from trade partner organizations to collaborate, such as brokers, testing laboratories, and manufacturers.

CPSC appreciates your interest in testing eFiling systems! CPSC has received many inquiries expressing interest in the eFiling voluntary stage. CPSC suggests that all importers and trade partners impacted by eFiling start preparing NOW! An excellent way to get started is to review the learning materials on the eFiling webpage at www.CPSC.gov/eFiling in preparation for the voluntary stage. Stay tuned for an eFiling Quick Start Guide coming soon intended to support importers and their trade partners through the beginning stages of eFiling implementation.

The eFiling Beta Pilot Ends in June 2024. What's Next?

CPSC will continue to gather feedback from Beta Pilot participants through feedback sessions, survey distribution, and continued testing. Development and integration efforts in the front and back-end systems are ongoing to prepare eFiling system functionality, resilience, and capacity for full implementation. While the eFiling Beta Pilot formally ends in June 2024, Pilot participants will have the option to transition to a voluntary participation stage to allow for continued system testing and improvement.

CPSC staff is on track to deliver a Final Rule package to the Commissioners this year. Staff is currently developing a final rule package for Commission consideration, and reviewing and considering the public comments submitted in response to the <u>eFiling Supplemental Notice of</u> <u>Proposed Rulemaking (SNPR)</u>.



Product Registry Access for Software Developers

CPSC is providing Product Registry access to software developers for API integration purposes! CPSC understands that gathering and implementing the technical requirements for API integration takes time. Importers or trade partners that are ready to begin API integration can sign up for the next round of software developer account invitations today. This opportunity is for software developers to access the Product Registry via a software developer account. Developers <u>will not</u> have access to existing importer Business Accounts and can only use this access for API integration purposes. Importers with internal IT departments interested in API integration <u>can</u> request a software developer account. Please note that the software developer accounts for API integration are not meant to contain real certificate data.

CPSC is allowing software developer access on a first-come, first-served,

limited basis as well based on CPSC's development capacity.

To sign up for the next available round of software developer account invitations, email <u>eFilingSupport@cpsc.gov</u> with:

- 1. Company name
- 2. Initial user's name
- 3. Initial user's email address

The Product Registry will allow this initial user to invite other users within their company after establishing a software developer account. CPSC previously made this announcement via the <u>eFiling mailing list</u> on Friday, May 3, 2024.

Next Steps...

As CPSC transitions to the eFiling voluntary stage, importers should take action to prepare for eFiling full implementation if they have not yet done so. See below for suggested next steps for your organization:

- **Understand eFiling requirements** and how they will impact your business.
- Assess your business and system readiness to understand how to prepare.
- **Designate internal eFiling team** to gather requirements and build awareness.
- Establish integrated communication channels across all stakeholder organizations.
- **Sign up for the <u>eFiling mailing list</u>** to receive important eFiling announcements from CPSC.

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