

COLORADO'S LARGEST FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE

The Great Western Industrial Park is designated as a Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ), with seven hundred, sixty-six acres already approved as a general purpose within the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zone #123.

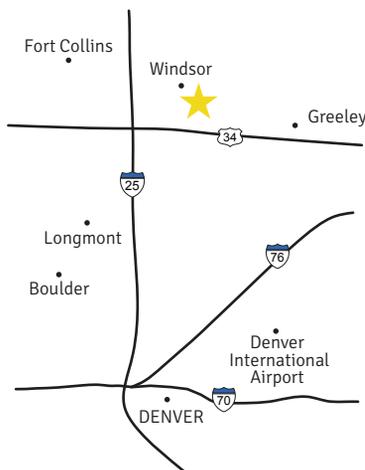
What is a Foreign Trade Zone?

A site within the U.S. that is considered by federal government to be outside Customs territory. The benefits of a Foreign-Trade Zone program may be the competitive advantage that companies need to keep their manufacturing or distribution operations in the United States. Lower FTZ- based production costs encourage increased investment in U.S. facilities instead of in offshore alternatives.

Can I benefit from locating in FTZ 123?

You may if you do one or more of the following:

- Import goods with a high-duty rate.
- Import and export goods.
- Combine foreign and domestic goods.
- Add value through assembly, manufacturing, packaging, etc..



Benefits of Locating your Business in Northern Colorado's FTZ:

As a zone user, you can benefit from:

- **Duty Exemption** - No duties on imported goods that are later re-exported.
- **Duty Deferral** - Customs duties and federal excise tax deferred on imports.
- **Inverted Tariff** - In situations where zone manufacturing result in a finished product that has a lower duty rate than the rates on foreign inputs (inverted tariff), the finished products may be entered at the duty rate that applies to its condition as it leave the zone—subject to public interest considerations.
- **Logistical Benefits** - Companies using FTZ procedures may have access to streamlined customs procedures (e.g. "Weekly entry" or "direct delivery").

Using as Foreign-Trade Zone

Once a zone locate has been established by the FTZ Board, companies are required to 'activate' the zone with U.S Customs and Border Protection (CBP) prior to beginning FTZ operations. Zone activity occurs under the supervision of CBP and FTZs remain within the jurisdiction of all other local, state and federal governments or agencies.

Great Western Industrial Park has already taken the first step, by completing the approval with the FTZ. Let us know if you are interested in more information on FTZ.

FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE ADVANTAGES

CASH FLOW

U.S. Customs duties are paid only if and when imported merchandise is shipped into the U.S. Customs territory and is subject to duty. Merchandise transferred to another zone, exported, or destroyed may avoid U.S. Customs duties. Inventory is held and/or processed in the FTZ without duty payment.

EXPORTS

No U.S. Customs duties are paid on merchandise exported from an FTZ. Normally while the drawback law allows the recovery of U.S. Customs duties previously paid after the merchandise is exported, rarely are all exports subject to drawback. In an FTZ, the duties are simply never paid.

Exports to NAFTA Countries of unused merchandise are rarely recovered because of the complexity of NAFTA drawback. Merchandise exported to Canada or Mexico in the same condition as it was when admitted to the zone may be exported to Canada or Mexico without the payment of any U.S. duties. Foreign non-duty paid merchandise processed or manufactured in an FTZ and subsequently exported to Canada or Mexico may have the U.S. duties owed deferred, reduced, or waived as applicable.

WASTE/SCRAP/DEFECTS/DAMAGE/OBsolescence

U.S. Customs duties are significantly reduced or eliminated on merchandise subject to these accountable losses.

INVERTED U.S. CUSTOMS DUTY SAVINGS

In an FTZ, uniquely, the FTZ user may elect to pay the duty rate applicable to either component materials or the finished product manufactured from the component material, depending upon which is lower. In some cases, the rate may be zero or "duty free." The reduction or elimination of U.S. Customs duties is significant.

NONDUTIABILITY OF LABOR, OVERHEAD, AND PROFIT

U.S. Customs duties are not owed on labor, overhead and profit attributed to production operations in an FTZ. If the same production operation were done overseas, the value of the labor, overhead and profit would be subject to U.S. Customs duty. The reduced Customs duties per unit for U.S. produced articles can be the basis for choosing U.S. productions.

STAGED DUTY REDUCTIONS

Certain articles have U.S. Customs duties reduced yearly. Non-privileged foreign status merchandise utilizes the rate of duty in effect as of the shipment date from the zone.

REDUCED CYCLE TIME

Delays relating to U.S. Customs clearances are eliminated. Special direct delivery procedures expedite the receipt of merchandise in company facilities, reducing inventory cycle time.

WEEKLY ENTRIES

Weekly entry procedures significantly reduce paperwork and expense. Duties are owed only when and if merchandise is transferred from the zone to the U.S. Customs territory. No duties are owed on exports, zone to zone transfer, certain scrap/waste, etc. Merchandise processing fees are paid only one entry per week.

HARBOR MAINTENANCE FEE

Fees are paid quarterly on merchandise admitted in the FTZ, not on the U.S. Customs entry, creating a cash flow advantage.

TAXATION

By Federal statute, tangible personal property imported from outside the U.S. and held in a zone, and tangible personal property produced in the U.S. and held in a zone for exportation, are not subject to State and local ad valorem taxes. Several states and Puerto Rico have special tax incentive laws based upon zone status.

PRODUCTION MACHINERY

Machinery for use in a zone may be assembled and installed before duties are owed on either the parts or finished product rate.

INTERNATIONAL RETURNS

A number of firms that export have a percentage of the exports returned to the United States. U.S. Customs duties are owed each time merchandise of foreign origin that has not been registered with U.S. Customs is returned. American Goods Returned merchandise can be verified. By being returned and admitted to an FTZ, no U.S. Customs duties are paid upon return.

COUNTRY-OF-ORIGIN MARKING/LABELING

Country-of-origin labels are not required on merchandise admitted to the FTZ. Merchandise shipped into U.S. Customs territory must have appropriate origin labeling which will vary depending on the circumstances.

SECURITY

The FTZ is subject to U.S. Customs supervision and security requirements. Unauthorized withdrawal of merchandise, such as employee pilferage or stealing, is a violation of 18 U.S.C. 549, 3571, carrying a penalty up to ten (10) years in a federal penitentiary, fines not more than \$250,000, or both per offense.

ANTIDUMPING/COUNTERVAILING DUTIES

Use of an FTZ defers the payment of these duties until merchandise enters the U.S. Customs territory. Exported merchandise is never subject to these duties. Note that recovery of these duties is not available under the drawback law.

SPARE PARTS

To service many products, spare parts must be on hand in the United States for prompt shipment. However, it is impossible for most firms to know the requirements for spare parts, especially with new products. Spare parts may be held in the FTZ without U.S. Customs duty payment, generating cash flow savings. Obsolete parts may be destroyed without duty payment.

U.S. QUOTA

Most merchandise may be held in an FTZ, even if it is subject to U.S. quota restriction. When the quota opens, the merchandise may be immediately shipped into U.S. Customs territory. Voluntary restraint and orderly marketing agreements are not impacted by FTZ use.

QUALITY CONTROL

The FTZ may be used for quality control inspections to ensure that only merchandise that meets specifications is imported and duty paid. All other materials may be repaired, returned to the foreign vendor, or destroyed.

INVENTORY CONTROL

Operations in an FTZ require careful accounting of receipt, processing, manufacturing, and shipment of merchandise. Firms have found that the increased accountability reduces inventory error, receiving and shipping concerns, and waste and scrap.

ENTIRETIES PROVISION

An importer can choose whether or not the entireties provision (all necessary parts classified as the finished product) is utilized at entry.

EXHIBITION

Merchandise may be held for exhibition in the zone without U.S. Customs duty payment. At a later date the merchandise may be imported or exported.

INSURANCE COSTS

The insurable value of merchandise held in an FTZ need not include the U.S. Customs duty payable on the merchandise. Cargo insurance rates should be reduced because imported merchandise is shipped directly to an FTZ.

ZONE-TO-ZONE TRANSFER

Significant benefits accrue to the in-bond transfer of merchandise from one zone or subzone to another for distribution or manufacture without U.S. Customs duty payment. A network of zone projects provides opportunities to reduce or eliminate duties.

TEMPORARY REMOVAL PROCEDURE

Merchandise may be removed from an FTZ into the U.S. Customs territory for certain activities and returned to the FTZ without U.S. Customs duty payment.

COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAWS

Merchandise may be admitted into an FTZ without being subject to a wide array of Federal laws that would otherwise prohibit the importation. Upon shipment into the U.S. Customs territory, the merchandise must meet all applicable requirements.

ENTERPRISE ZONE COORDINATION

Foreign-trade zone advantages may be combined with those of enterprise zones for enhanced financial gain.

TRANSFER OF TITLE

Title to merchandise may be transferred in an FTZ as long as there is not a "retail" sale.

RECORD IDENTITY ACCOUNTING

Specific physical identification of merchandise is unnecessary in an FTZ. The UIN system allows FIFO record identity inventory accounting.

NO TIME LIMIT

Merchandise can remain in an FTZ for an unlimited time period.

CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES

As U.S. laws and especially U.S. Customs laws change, location in an FTZ allows a firm greater flexibility in addressing these changing circumstances.