



**TRADE LOGISTICS**  
*YOUR KEY TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE*

Want to start or grow your import/export business?

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**GUIDE TO  
ATA Carnet**

## ATA Carnet:

The ATA Carnet is an international customs document that allows duty-free and VAT free temporary import of goods that are re-exported within one year. The initials “ATA” are an acronym of the French and English words “Admission Temporaire / Temporary Admission.” The ATA is normally controlled by the national Chambers of Commerce (CoC) in a country and operates under international customs conventions administered by the World Customs Organization (WCO).

While most countries accept ATA carnets not every country does so it is worthwhile checking that the countries you are travelling to will accept the ATA before your arrival in that country. If the country does not accept the ATA you will be liable for the customs duty and VAT, which can usually be refunded upon the exit of your goods from the country.

### **An ATA Carnet can be used to:**

- Send samples to buyers.
- Temporarily export goods used for Trade Shows, Fairs, Exhibitions etc.
- Temporarily export tools, machinery or professional equipment required for work on a project.
- Temporarily import items for repair.
- Travel with items that would normally attract duty.

ATA Carnets do not cover perishable or consumable items or goods that will be used up during processing or repair.

### **Applying for an ATA Carnet:**

You can apply for an ATA Carnet by filling in the [form on this page](#). For the carnet to be granted an issuing fee must be paid as well as a deposit or guarantee letter for 50% of the value of the goods (25% is required for carnet's to Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia & Swaziland). The minimum accepted deposit is R5000.



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