

Amazon Global Logistics: Seller Managed Placement (SMP)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

SMP Feature

1. **What placement options does AGL offer for Ship to FBA service?** AGL offers three placement options: Amazon Managed Placement (AMP), Seller Managed Placement (SMP), and Minimal Shipment Splits (MSS). These options give sellers flexibility based on shipment specs and business needs. Consider factors like volume, density, and sort type when choosing placement option. Watch the [AGL FBA Placement Options in the US video](#) to learn more.
2. **What is Seller Managed Placement (SMP) with AGL?** Seller Managed Placement (SMP) is a new inbound shipping option that gives sellers more control over inventory placement while reducing costs. By leveraging Amazon's regional distribution network, sellers can ship directly to five regional cross-docks across the U.S., eliminating inbound placement service fees and optimizing inventory distribution. See the [SMP 1-pager](#) for more details.
3. **What are the key benefits of SMP?** With SMP, shipments are split into five in China and sent to five different regions across the U.S. This optimizes inventory distribution and eliminates the FBA inbound placement fee since sellers manage the distribution themselves.
4. **What is the requirement for SMP?** Sellers must have at least five cartons of the same ASIN mix- one for each region. Only standard-size items are supported.
5. **When do you recommend SMP?** SMP is ideal for medium to high-density shipments over 10 CBM. Unlike AMP or MSS, SMP distributes inventory to five regions, helping avoid FBA inbound placement fees.
6. **When do you not recommend SMP?** SMP is not ideal for shipments less than 10 CBM. Due to the split into five shipments, the fixed fee will incur five times, one for each shipment. Therefore, the cost savings are none or minimal for shipments with volume under 10 CBM.
7. **Can I ship partial shipments with AGL?** No. SMP requires all five shipments to be shipped with AGL under a single AGL AOSS PO. Non-compliance may result in inbound defect fees.
8. **Do I need to drop off all five shipments at once?** No. After creating the AGL AOSS PO on Seller Central, sellers can book each shipment individually on Shipper Central. Each booking can have different CRDs, speed, modes, and shipment types (LCL or FCL).
9. **Do all five shipments need to arrive within a certain timeframe?** Yes. All five shipments must arrive within 45 days of the first shipment's arrival. If delays are caused by AGL, sellers are exempt from inbound defect fees.
10. **Do I need to provide customs clearance documents for each shipment?** Yes. Each of the five shipments requires its own customs clearance documentation. The fixed fee is applied five times. SMP is not recommended for shipments under 10 CBM due to this cost.
11. **What is the transit time with SMP? Is it faster than AMP or MSS?** Transit time varies by region since SMP involves five separate shipments to five U.S. regions. We offer Fast Ocean service for SMP to the West Coast and Central region, which is slightly faster than Fast Ocean service for AMP or MSS to the West Coast, since it can bypass a touchpoint. While transit to our ports on the East Coast will take longer than a single inventory injection to the West Coast, SMP's ability to bypass a touchpoint still makes the service faster than a single inventory injection into the East Coast using AMP or MSS.

Booking Process

12. **How can I book SMP?** Create an AGL AOSS PO on Seller Central. At the end of the process, click “Book transportation with Amazon Shipper Central.” Refer to the [SMP Booking Guide](#) and [SMP Booking Walkthrough Video](#) for step-by-step instructions.
13. **I don’t see SMP pricing on Seller Central.** SMP rates are shown during booking on Shipper Central, not on Seller Central. Rates are comparable to MSS, but SMP does not incur the FBA inbound placement fees, which makes it cost-effective for shipments over 10 CBM.
14. **I clicked “Book transportation with Amazon Shipper Central” but received errors.** Contact your AGL account manager or open a case via Seller Central help. We’ll assist you directly.
15. **I uploaded my PO on Shipper Central but received errors.** Try refreshing the page or waiting a few minutes before retrying. If the issue continues, contact your AGL account manager or open a case via Seller Central help.
16. **How does the shipment consolidation work?** You can consolidate shipments going to the same region into an FCL or LCL, as long as they share the same sort type and placement option.
17. **My ASINs come from multiple suppliers. Can I consolidate shipments?** Yes, if there’s a single Exporter of Record responsible for the consolidated shipments in China. Additional service fees may apply- please consult your AGL operator assigned at booking to coordinate managing multiple supplier consolidation.