

Understand ACP and IOR

To import your FBA shipment, you will need an IOR (Importer of Record) and/or an ACP (Attorney for Customs Procedures) for your goods.

What is the Importer of Record (IOR)?

When shipping goods into Japan, there must be an Importer of Record who will be responsible for duties and taxes that may be charged upon import. The importer is also responsible for ensuring the imported goods comply with local laws and regulations.

Please note that Amazon and its fulfillment centers will not serve as the Importer of Record nor Attorney for Customs Procedures for any shipment of Fulfillment by Amazon (FBA).

If you do not have a Japanese entity to act as the importer of record, it is mandatory that you appoint an Attorney for Customs Procedure (ACP). Overseas Sellers, as non-resident importers, can generally rely on a program called ACP to help bring their inventory into Japan. An ACP is a resident Japanese entity who registers with Japan Customs as your agent to help with entries and communications. Please note ACP does not fully take over the whole responsibility of an importer. You must ensure that your goods comply with the local laws and regulations as a part of your responsibility.

Please be advised that the customs territory of Japan is divided into regional areas that do not share information regarding ACP registration. This means you can only rely on your ACP in the region(s) where the application is received. You have to appoint an ACP in each region if necessary. Once you find out the destination FC for your goods, please ensure that your ACP is registered in all required regions.

Are certain product categories limited to Japanese-resident IOR instead of an ACP?

Yes, there are certain products that are subject to Other Government Agency notification, certification, or registration requirements that must be met by a resident Japanese entity who is also responsible for ensuring the imported goods comply with local laws and regulations. Because these requirements can only be met by a Japanese entity, a non-resident IOR cannot meet them. You or the IOR you hire are responsible for determining whether or not your goods require a license, permit or other authorization. Japan Customs website has provided an outline of relevant laws and ordinances as a guide but you should also consult your customs broker or lawyer. Additionally, all imported products must meet Japanese regulations and product labeling

obligations.

Japan Customs website:

http://www.customs.go.jp/english/c-answer_e/imtsukan/1801_e.htm

Please also review our website for applicable Amazon policies:

https://sellercentral.amazon.co.jp/gp/help/external/XMGGPL6LC4CVXHT?language=en_US

See below chart what you should do.

