



## **Negotiated Rate Arrangements (NRA)**

An Introduction to Legal Basis, Content and Consequences of NRAs

### **Legal Basis and Purpose**

The US Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) requires that shipments in the U.S. trade lanes be transported only by ocean transportation intermediaries (OTIs) as carriers which are licensed or registered with the FMC. The FMC also requires these OTIs to publish public rates for this transport, or in the alternative to ship pursuant to Negotiated Rate Arrangements ("NRAs") which by law are required to be confidential. To meet this requirement, and to protect our clients' proprietary business information, DEEP BLUE OCEAN LINE utilize NRAs.

### **Content and Requirements**

The NRA documents the following basics of your shipment required by FMC regulations:

- NRA Effective Date and be in a writing
- Must contain Shipper and OTI carrier information
- Nature of your goods
- Origin, Destination, POL and POD
- Rate amount, Rate basis, Cargo quantity, Service type

The NRA must be in place prior to DEEP BLUE OCEAN LINE taking receipt of your cargo at origin. Without an accepted NRA on file, your cargo cannot move.

### **Use and Consequences**

The NRA quote is sent to you by email in PDF format. Booking of cargo after receiving the NRA or an amendment to the NRA constitutes acceptance of the rates and conditions of the NRA or NRA amendment received.

