

ACQUISITIONS & CUSTOMS - WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Your company has been acquired by another company, or perhaps you have acquired a company. There are a few things you will need to consider for both scenarios for customs purposes when acquisitions happen.



Considerations and important questions to ask:



- Will each company be operating independently with their own legal name and business number?
- Will the acquired company be changing their legal name?
- Will the acquired company be changing their business number?
- Will the acquired company become part of the existing company?

My acquired company is changing their legal name and business number, what do I need to do?

If your acquired company is changing their legal name and business number, you will need to do the following:

- Find out if your acquired company will be staying with your existing broker:
 - If yes, your broker will need updated legal documents including General Agency Agreement (GAA) and Power of Attorney (POA) in the new legal name and business number
 - If no, and you are changing your customs broker to the same broker as the acquiring company you will need to determine if your customs clearances will be done under one account, or separate accounts. Two separate legal documents may be required to reflect the different locations. The best place to start is to give the broker a call and advise them of the situation, and discuss any specific steps.

My company was acquired by another company – but we are not changing our legal name or business number, and continuing business independently, what do I need to do?

If your company was acquired, but is going to remain operating as its own legal entity with the same business name and number, no changes will need to be made with your customs broker.

From a customs stand point it is business as usual. If later on the legal name and business number are changed you will need to notify your customs broker at that time, and provide an updated General Agency Agreement (GAA) or Power of Attorney (POA) with the new legal name and business number.

If you have questions about an acquisition and what this means as it relates to customs purposes, reach out to us at clientsupportca@buckland.com.