EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE

Minimizing Risk in the Global Marketplace
WHY HAVE **EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE?**

Imagine this: your U.S. business has identified an international buyer for its product, you have agreed on pricing, and your buyer wants open account credit terms. How will your company manage the risk of nonpayment by your foreign buyer? Insuring your foreign receivables through EXIM’s Export Credit Insurance is a great place to start.

Export Credit Insurance is an insurance policy that covers foreign receivables.

Export Credit Insurance mitigates your nonpayment risk while empowering you to meet, or beat, your competitors by offering attractive credit terms. Your business can use open account credit terms to win new customers and increase sales to existing buyers.

Another benefit to insuring foreign receivables is that lenders will often accept them as collateral, expanding your borrowing base and improving cash flow.

**Export Credit Insurance:**

- Increases your ability to compete in international markets
- Protects your foreign receivables from nonpayment
- Expands your borrowing base for improved liquidity

“EXIM allowed us to take on a larger customer overseas. We never would have expanded our exports without the support offered by EXIM. We could take on multiple orders, pay our vendors on time and offer better terms to our customers without concern for receipt of payment.”

L. James-Meyer, CEO of BioSafe
**BENEFITS INCLUDE:**

**Increased Sales**
Every business wants to be more competitive. Providing open account credit terms is very appealing to foreign buyers and can be the difference between winning and losing a deal. When given more time to pay, existing customers have the financial flexibility to increase the size of their orders. Even the delivery speed of goods can be positively affected by open account credit terms since the delay associated with a letter of credit or cash in advance is avoided.

**Risk Prevention**
The challenge for exporters, particularly small businesses, is clear. Selling to international buyers on open account credit terms can be risky. If the buyers don’t pay, there is very little recourse for the U.S.-based company and the financial hit can be significant. Export credit insurance mitigates the risk of nonpayment by insuring foreign receivables.

**Cash Management**
When your business needs cash to fulfill orders or pay for operations you often look to your local lender. These lenders are more likely to include foreign receivables and inventory in your borrowing base when those receivables are insured, giving you access to additional financing and improving cash flow.

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**What does Export Credit Insurance Cover?**

**Commercial Risks:**
- Insolvency
- Bankruptcy
- Protracted Default

**Political Risks:**
- War, Revolution, Insurrection
- Currency Transfer Risk
- Cancellation of an Import or Export License
HOW DOES EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE WORK?

Step 1: You identify an international buyer and obtain an Export Credit Insurance policy.

Step 2: You offer credit terms to your foreign buyer.

Step 3: The buyer accepts the deal’s terms.

Step 4: You ship your product and invoice the buyer.

Step 5: You report shipments & pay premiums on the amount shipped.

Step 6: The buyer pays. If they fail to do so, EXIM pays.
WHAT POLICY OPTIONS ARE OFFERED?

**Express Insurance**
Most attractive to small businesses with limited or no prior export experience.

*Features Include:*
- 95% coverage
- No deductible
- Pay-as-you-go premiums
- Streamlined application

**Multi-Buyer Insurance**
Options to cover all or part of your export portfolio.

*Features Include:*
- 95% coverage
- No deductible
- Pay-as-you-go premiums

**Single-Buyer Insurance**
Covers one buyer for a predetermined period of time and dollar amount.

*Features Include:*
- 90% coverage
- No deductible
- Individual policies for each deal
- Policies to cover all the deals from a single buyer

**TIP:** With Single-Buyer Insurance, you can have multiple policies for the same buyer covering different deals.
WHAT’S NEXT?

EXIM is here to support you on your exporting journey. We offer a wide range of financing tools for your company’s unique needs, as well as free consultations, educational material, exporter resources, and more. You can:

**Talk to an Expert**
EXIM specialists are ready and waiting in your area to give you a free consultation:

grow.exim.gov/consultationrequest

**Get Helpful Advice**
Do you have questions about account terms and financing for exporters? Our experts are here to help:

grow.exim.gov/export-financing-faqs

**Learn Exporting Basics**
Our free eBook, The Basic Guide to Exporting, will teach you everything you need to get started:

grow.exim.gov/export-guide

**Unlock Your Business’s Cash Flow**
Learn how EXIM works with your lender so you can compete internationally:

grow.exim.gov/wclg-guide