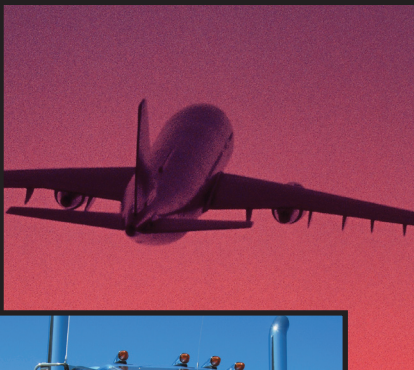




Import/Export Advantage



Mississippi Coast
Foreign Trade Zone, Inc.

Hancock, Harrison & Jackson Counties

What is the Mississippi Coast Foreign Trade Zone?

The Mississippi Coast Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ #92) is 5,000 acres of secured sites at airports, ports and industrial parks located within the Mississippi counties of Hancock, Harrison and Jackson.

These Mississippi Gulf Coast counties lie along the north central Gulf of Mexico in the multi-modal transportation center of the state. All governmental agencies necessary to accommodate uncomplicated importation and exportation of products are readily available to each site within the Mississippi Coast Foreign Trade Zone.

Goods in process within the FTZ are considered to be outside of U.S. Customs territory. Therefore, foreign or domestic merchandise coming into the FTZ is generally considered part of international commerce and not officially entered into U.S. commerce. Usual duties charged on goods may be:

- **Deferred** until all or part of the shipment is entered for U.S. consumption
- **Reduced** when processing in the FTZ changes the tariff classification
- **Avoided** when goods are re-exported from the zone
- **Eliminated** on items that become damaged or obsolete while in the FTZ

In addition, the Mississippi Coast Foreign Trade Zone has assisted companies in securing special purpose manufacturing subzones in the three county area. This assistance has provided these companies with FTZ advantages, even though the physical facilities are some distance from the port of entry and FTZ property.

What may be done in an FTZ?

Merchandise entering the FTZ may be:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| • Stored | • Sampled |
| • Destroyed | • Displayed |
| • Tested | • Cleaned |
| • Assembled | • Salvaged |
| • Mixed | • Repaired |
| • Relabeled | • Processed |
| • Manipulated | • Manufactured |
| • Repackaged | |

What are the advantages of an FTZ?

If you are a non-manufacturing or manufacturing operation that imports, exports or re-exports – and you would like to improve cash availability and lower operating costs – the Mississippi Coast FTZ offers the business advantages you need:

- **Operating Capital** is available longer because duty or excise tax is not paid until goods are entered into U.S. Customs territory.
- **Inventory Exemption** is frequently available.
- **Indefinite Storage** of goods within the FTZ encourages volume buying, transportation discounts and distribution of goods under the most favorable market conditions.
- **Bulk Shipments** may be broken down and repackaged within an FTZ which can ensure transportation savings and allow improperly labeled merchandise to be correctly labeled without fines or penalties.
- **Merchandise** may be sampled and tested for quality in the FTZ, allowing for defective or substandard goods to be repaired, returned or discarded before assessment of duty.
- **Foreign Products** that have been further processed in the FTZ may receive a change in classification, thereby reducing the amount of Customs duty charged.
- **Reduced Insurance Costs** may be applicable due to the tight security and 24-hour protection provided by the FTZ and also because the value of the goods in the FTZ does not include the cost of duty payment.
- **Goods May Be Displayed** in an FTZ and sold at wholesale.
- **Seasonal Goods** or those subject to market fluctuations may be stored in the FTZ indefinitely.
- **Distribution Operations** will find the FTZ an ideal duty free holding area in the U.S. until their products are distributed.



You should consider using an FTZ:

- **When Imported Merchandise** is subject to high duty rates or low to moderate duty rates and distributed in relatively high volume
- **When Imported Goods** are brought into the U.S. in dutiable containers and are to be sorted, repackaged, relabeled or upgraded to meet company or entry requirements
- **When the Cost of Merchandise** or shipping is increasing faster than inventory turnover will profitably accommodate
- **When Goods Can Be Imported** at a manufacturer's discount several months prior to sale
- **When Sub-Assembly**, assembly or manufacturing, using wholly or partly imported materials, is undertaken for sale in U.S. or foreign markets
- **When Processing Merchandise** can result in duty or transportation savings from weight reduction or lower duty rates
- **When Import Shipments** can be made in quantity to lower costs; then the products are inspected, repaired or repackaged; and then entered into Customs territory in smaller quantities
- **When Imported Merchandise** is to be stored and exhibited for later sale in order to take advantage of seasonal or unique markets
- **When the Duration of Storage** is uncertain or prolonged and/or when the ultimate destination is uncertain

Special advantages are offered at the Mississippi Coast FTZ #92.

When you choose the Mississippi Coast FTZ, you will be using one of America's most professional and well-run foreign trade zones. Many unique advantages are offered:

World-Class Deep Water Ports: The Ports of Gulfport, Pascagoula and Bienville are located on the north central Gulf of Mexico with direct access to the Intercoastal Waterway, railways, interstate and four-lane U.S. highways.



Available Warehouse Space

Abundant warehouse storage space is available at each port and at various industrial sites. Facilities exist for perishables, fumigation and irradiation (pending).

Fully Developed Industrial Park Property

Several hundred acres of property, located on navigable waterways and at all three international airports, with areas designated for heavy manufacturing, light industry or technology businesses, are available within the FTZ.



Direct Connection to Worldwide Air Shipments

The Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport, Stennis International Airport and Trent Lott International Airport all lie within the FTZ and provide world-class facilities for international air transportation.





Access to Interstate and Multi-Lane Highway Systems

The area is served by Interstates 10 & 59, U.S. Highway 49, State Highways 57 & 63, and numerous other interconnecting routes which allow products to reach major U.S. markets expeditiously.



On-Site Utilities

Water, electricity, telephone, natural gas and waste disposal are available on sites within the FTZ.

Location in Mississippi's Fastest Growing Region

The Mississippi Gulf Coast is home to more than 7,000 businesses and nearly 400,000 residents.

In addition, the area offers:

- An abundant, diversified labor force
- Scheduled airline service
- Excellent housing, recreation, casino resorts and educational opportunities
- Easy access to over 130 major metropolitan areas
- Mild weather year-round
- Pro-development business climate

FTZ Operator Support

The Mississippi Coast FTZ can facilitate the use of FTZ space and assist users with:

- Activating FTZ space
- Interfacing with U.S. Customs
- The entry and withdrawal process
- Inventory control
- All FTZ administrative functions

Why choose the Mississippi Gulf Coast?

We are successful. The annual economic impact of the Mississippi Coast FTZ #92 is \$10 billion. When you add the business incentives offered on the state and local level to the advantages of our FTZ, it is easy to see why the Mississippi Coast is the choice for a growing number of business operations.

- **Vocational Technical Training**

The Mississippi Coast offers one of the best vocational and technical training programs in the nation.

- **Labor-Market Data**

The most accurate labor and market information is readily available.

- **Free Employment Screening**

Mississippi offers free employment screening and interviewing at no charge to businesses.

- **Innovative Financing**

Attractive financing programs are available through local financial institutions, as well as state and other governmental programs.

- **Tax Exempt Revenue Bonds**

Low cost financing is available for qualified projects.

- **Tax Incentives**

Special tax incentives are available for qualified companies.

Contact us today to see how the Mississippi Coast FTZ can become your place to profit in the 21st Century!

228-896-5020



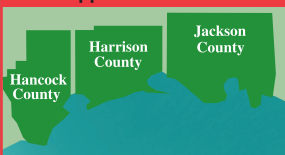
North America



**Mississippi
Coast Foreign
Trade Zone, Inc.**

Gulf of Mexico

Mississippi's Coastal Counties



South America

**FOR MORE
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Other Mississippi Coast FTZ Partners:

**Hancock County Development Commission
228-467-9231
www.hcdc.ms**

**Jackson County Port Authority
228-762-4041
www.portofpascagoula.com**

**Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport
228-863-5951 or 1-866-4GPTBLX
www.flygpt.com**

**Mississippi State Port Authority
228-865-4300 or 1-877-881-4367
www.shipmspa.com**