



Findlay · Hancock County  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# OVERVIEW OF FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE #151

Learn more about how Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development, as the grantee of FTZ #151, can help your company reduce, eliminate, or defer U.S. Customs duties on imported goods, and possibly achieve logistics and administrative benefits.



## What is a Foreign Trade Zone?

A foreign-trade zone (FTZ) is a designated location in the United States where companies can use special customs procedures that encourage U.S. activity. FTZs can help businesses reduce production, transaction, and logistics-related costs by lowering effective customs duty rates, allowing special customs entry procedures, and encouraging production closer to market.

## Benefits of Foreign-Trade Zones

### Reduce.

In many cases, customs duties are higher for imported parts than they are for finished products. Thus, many companies use FTZs to import parts without paying customs duties, assemble or manufacture the parts into a different finished good, and then only pay the duty rate of the finished product (if applicable).

### Defer.

Since FTZs are outside the Customs territory of the United States for customs duty payment purposes, duties on imported goods are not paid until the goods leave the zone and enter the U.S. market. This allows a company to defer customs duties until merchandise leaves the zone instead of having substantial duties tied up in inventory, which can represent an important cash flow benefit.

## Who is served by FTZ #151?

Foreign Trade Zone #151 covers six counties within the Northwest Ohio region: Hancock, Hardin, Seneca, Allen, Putnam, and Van Wert Counties. Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development (FHCED) is the grantee of this FTZ. FHCED also partners with [Rockefeller Group](#) to administer the program. Examples of currently activated companies include Whirlpool, Ohio Logistics, Procter & Gamble, and Supreme Resources.

### Eliminate.

Customs duties are never paid on goods that are admitted into a zone, and then re-exported or scrapped under customs permit. No formal entry with customs is filed and the goods never enter the U.S. stream of commerce.

### Administrative & Logistics Benefits.

Companies may qualify for the privilege of utilizing Direct Delivery Admission and/or Weekly Consumption Entry filing, which are special Customs filing procedures available only to FTZ importers. These procedures allow companies to consolidate reporting of inbound and outbound shipments to Customs, enhance Customs compliance, and potentially reduce certain import fees (i.e., Merchandise Processing Fees) paid to Customs. These administrative and logistics benefits can significantly enhance the traditional Customs duty savings associated with FTZ usage.

Dan Sheaffer  
419.425.1711

[dsheaffer@findlayecondev.com](mailto:dsheaffer@findlayecondev.com)  
[www.findlayecondev.com](http://www.findlayecondev.com)

123 E Main Cross St.  
Findlay, OH 45840