

What is a Foreign Trade Zone?

A Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) is a tool that companies can use to increase their global competitiveness.

A FTZ is a site within the USA that is legally considered outside of Customs territory, so goods may be brought into the site duty-free and without formal customs entry. A General-Purpose FTZ has multiple users. A FTZ sub-zone provides the same benefits as a General Purpose Zone, but is located at a specific business location.

The Laredo International Airport is grantee and operator of Foreign-Trade Zone #94, which encompasses approximately 2,569 acres of potentially active area within 10,968 acres of available land at Laredo. The FTZ at the Laredo International Airport can accommodate two types of uses - industrial and aeronautical.

FTZ Laredo Sites

Site I, consists of 500 acres within a 1,576 acre tract and is located at the City-owned Laredo International Airport. Site I contains numerous buildings which can be activated should the present tenants so desire. Of these, six facilities comprising approximately 75,000 square feet are activated and utilized on a continuous basis. For further information concerning this site please call the airport director's office at (956)795-2000.

Site II, which is presently inactive, is located at the proposed Tex-Mex Railroad switching yard and consists of 19.28 acres.

Site III, consists of 500 acres within a 1,437 acre tract. Site III contains facilities totalling over three million square feet. Of this total, eight buildings with approximately 481,423 square feet are used as activated FTZ operations. For further information concerning this site please call Mr. Danny Zuniga at Killam Development Corporation at (956) 724-7141.

Site IV, a 14,000 acre master planned business and residential community that surrounds the U.S. side of the new Laredo Solidarity Bridge, is located in Laredo Northwest. Foreign-Trade Zone Status is available for 1,500 acres of 7,000 acres which encompasses the International Commerce Center. For more information concerning this site please call Murray Bass at P.O. Box 2385, Corpus Christi, TX 78403.

Site V, commonly referred to as "La Barranca Ranch", consists of 50 acres within a 930 acres proposed park and is located approximately four miles from the northern perimeter of the corporate city limits of the City of Laredo. For more information please contact Mr. Humberto Piña at (956) 723-6396.

Site VI, is located at the Unitec Industrial Park. Site VI, which encompasses the Unitec Industrial Park, contains approximately 682 acres. It is located on IH 35, 12 miles Northwest of Laredo. The privately-owned Industrial park/distribution center is served by rail and over 2 million square feet of existing warehouse space. (Board Order no. 1130)

Site VII, consists of 10 acres located in the north-central portion of the Embarcadero Park, at the northwest corner of Mijnes Road (FM 1472) and Loop 20. This designation is temporary and expires April 1, 2004. For more information please call Mr. Raul Perales at (956) 791-5000, raul@embarcadero-laredo.com.

Site VIII, is located at 22219 Mines Road, approximately 18 miles Northwest of Laredo and in close proximity to the Columbia Solidarity Bridge (Bridge III). This site encompasses Transmartine, Inc. & Transshipment Terminal. For more information please call Mr. George Martinez at (956) 724-8417.

Site IX, is located at 302 Grand Central Boulevard within the Milo Distribution Center and is operated by Valls Holding, LTD. For more information please call Mr. Richard Valls at (956) 727-2227.