

User Guide to Electronic Bill of Lading Portal (EBOLP)

# Table of Contents

Background Summary	1
Purpose	1
Process	2
Register your Company in EBOLP	2
Upload Files	6
Create Templates for your Uploads	7
Source Data	7
Create Customized Templates	7
Upload Bill of Lading File (Separate Invoice Items File)	16
Upload Separate Invoice Items File	20
Upload Bill of Lading File (Invoice Items Included in File)	27
Upload Image File	39
Manually Enter Bill of Lading	43
View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads	48
Available status are:	50
Summary	55

## **Background Summary**

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) and the Florida Department of Revenue (FDOR) have a longstanding partnership to gather bill of lading (BoL) data from shipping companies who are importing goods into the State. This bill of lading data is used to ensure use tax is collected from businesses and individuals who purchase goods out of state with no taxes imposed at the time of purchase. By collecting the taxes, FDOR ensures that in-state businesses that are required to collect and remit taxes on their sales are not at an economic disadvantage.

## **Purpose**

The Electronic Bill of Lading Portal (EBOLP) provides a convenient and quick way for Transport Carrier Companies to provide the Florida Department of Revenue (FDOR) with their Bill of Lading files or to manually enter a Bill of Lading. Access to the EBOLP, which is by invitation only, is restricted to Transport Carrier Companies and select FDOR employees.

The portal will ease the burden on shipping companies by allowing them to submit their Bill of Lading data via an online web portal verses sending in diskettes, CD's, and portable drives or email to FDOR. This also provides a more efficient process for collecting and reviewing data.

Electronic PrePass program technology has been authorized for use at the DACS inspection stations to:

- speed up collection of Bill of Lading files,
- reduce potential safety issues at inspection stations,
- help alleviate interstate congestion, and
- speed up movement of goods.

## **Process**

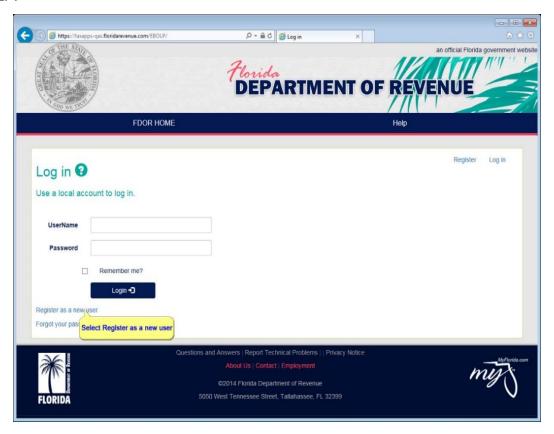
The process starts when the carrier registers with a PrePass Program member, who submit Transport Carrier detail to FDOR monthly. FDOR then sends an invitation letter to the Transport Carrier to participate in Electronic Bill of Lading using the Electronic Bill of Lading Portal (EBOLP). Prior to sending the invitation, a company record, and PIN number are created for each Carrier. The PIN number and a link to EBOLP are sent with the invitation to the Transport Carrier Company to be used in registering the company in EBOLP. Upon completing the registration, the Transport Carrier can upload BoL files to EBOLP.

# Register your Company in EBOLP

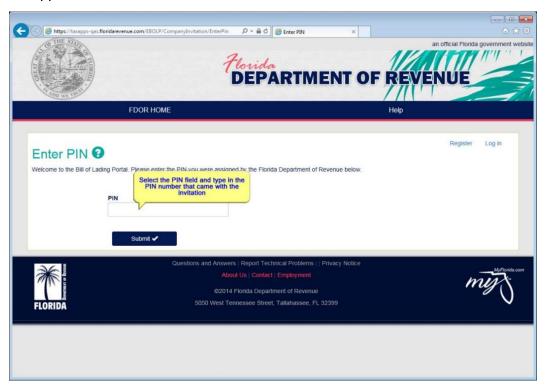
Your first step to using EBOLP is to register your company using the link and PIN supplied with your invitation.

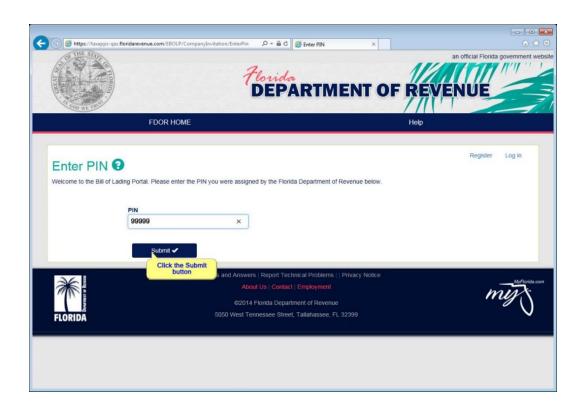
Clicking on the link or entering it into your web browser, takes you to the Florida Department of Revenue Electronic Bill of Lading Portal (EBOLP) log in screen where you Register your company.

The following series of screen captures illustrate a new user registering their company with EBOLP.



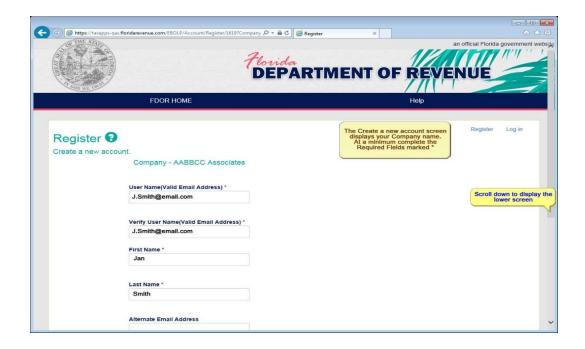
Enter the supplied PIN and then click the "Submit" button.

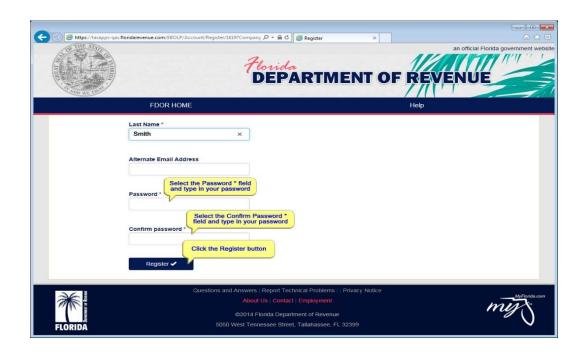




On the "Register Create a new account" screen complete at least all the Required Fields, marked \*, and then click the "Register" button.

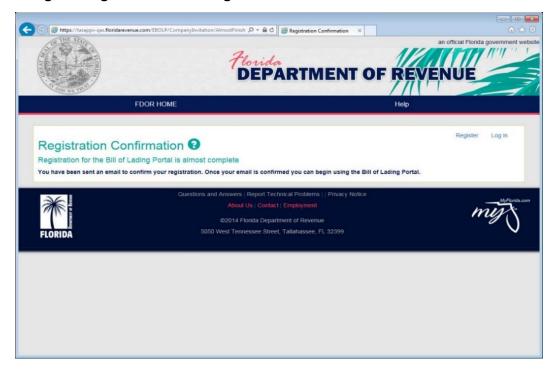
Note: The email address entered must be a valid address for the user and Passwords must be a minimum of 6 characters containing at least one number and one CAPITALIZED letter.



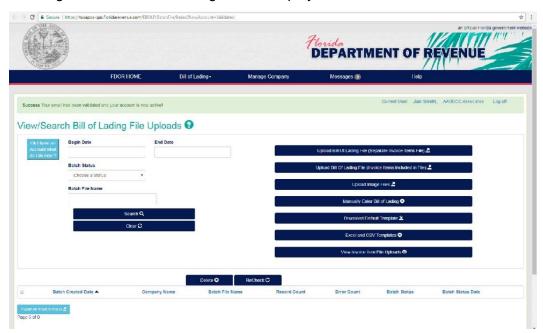


The "Registration Confirmation" screen displays the following message:

"You have been sent an email to confirm your registration. Once your email is confirmed you can begin using the Bill of Lading Portal."



After confirming the email, the following screen displays:



You are now registered with EBOLP and can start uploading your data files.

## **Upload Files**

EBOLP allows users to upload files that are separate Bills of Lading and Invoices, combined Bills of Lading with Invoices, or images. Manual entry of Bills of Lading including Invoice Items, is also possible. Acceptable file types are .xls, .csv, and .tif.

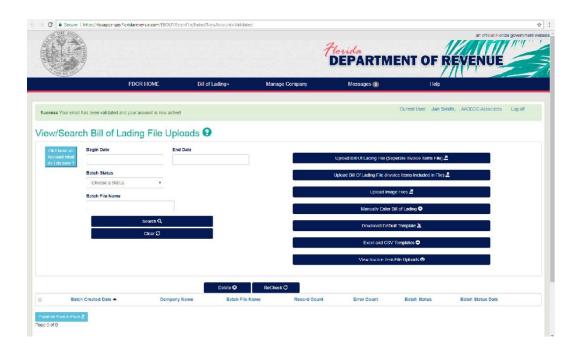
The upload method most suited to your operation can be determined by how you store your data.

Companies with large amounts of data tend to use the Separate Bills of Lading and Invoice Item file method. Where the Bills of Lading file contains the BoL detail of shipper, consignee, etc. and the Invoice Item file, as the name implies, contains the Invoice detail associated with the BoL in the other file.

Companies with smaller amounts of data often elect the Single File method, Bills of Lading Invoice Item Included. Where the BoL detail and a description field for the invoice item are combined in the same record in the file. The description field is restricted to 100 characters.

The "View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads" screen provides the following upload options:

- Upload Bill of Lading File (Separate Invoice Items File)
- Upload Bill of Lading File (Invoice Items Included in File)
- Upload Image File
- Manually Enter Bill of Lading



### **Create Templates for your Uploads**

Before attempting to upload any files, you need to customize a BoL template and an Invoice Items template to match your data file. The template is used to map your data file to the system database when it is uploaded. A default Bill of Lading template is provided to assist you in setting up your specific template.

Note: You need to customize the templates the first time you upload and thereafter only when your data file format changes.

#### Source Data

Before attempting to upload files to EBOLP, review the data for the following:

- Any logos or Title text at the start of the file delete any that may exist.
- Determine if column headers exist. If there are no column headers, you can download the Default Template and copy the headings from there onto your data file.
- Ensure that any blank fields do not contain spaces. Delete any existing spaces.
- For CSV files, the data must be enclosed in "Double Quotes".

### **Create Customized Templates**

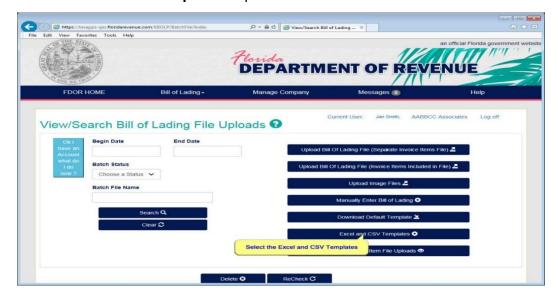
The following screen captures show:

**Firstly** — the steps in creating a customized template for a Bill of Lading (Separate Invoice Items). The same process is used for customizing a Bill of Lading (Invoice Items Included in File) template.

**Secondly** — the steps in customizing an Invoice Items template, only needed for BoL files that have a separate Invoice Items file.

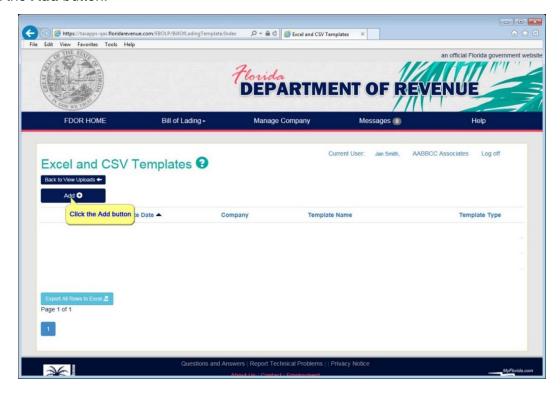
Starting from the "View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads" screen, proceed as follows:

Select the "Excel and CSV Templates" option.



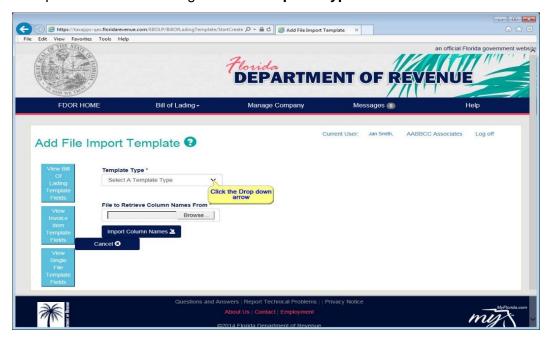
The "Excel and CSV Templates" screen displays:

Click the Add button.



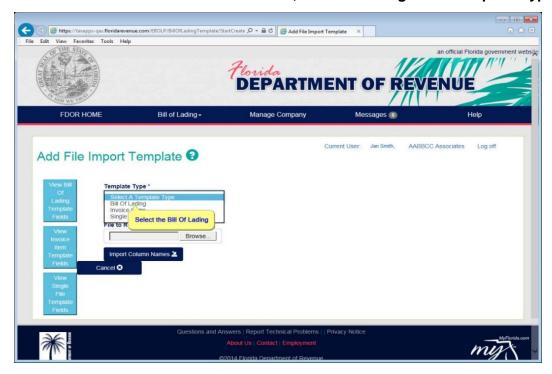
### The "Add File Import Template" screen displays:

Click the drop-down arrow to the right of the **Template Type\*** field.

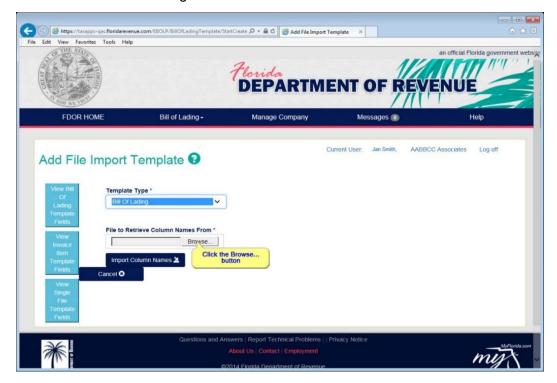


Select the Bill of Lading option from the drop-down list.

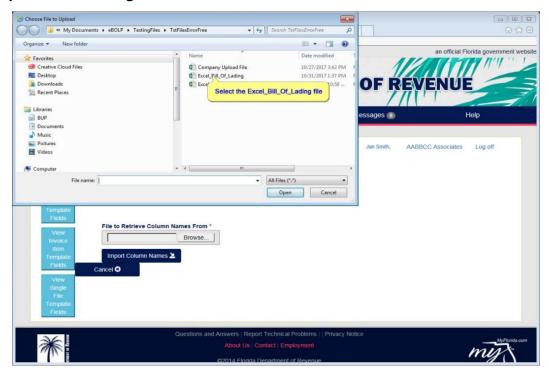
Note: For BoL files that include Invoice Items, Select the Single File Template Type.



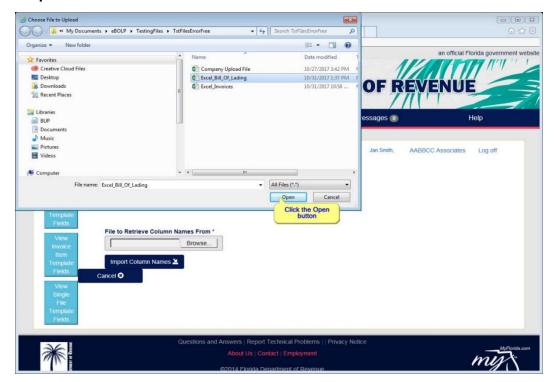
Click the **Browse** button to the right of the **File to Retrieve Column Names From\*** field.



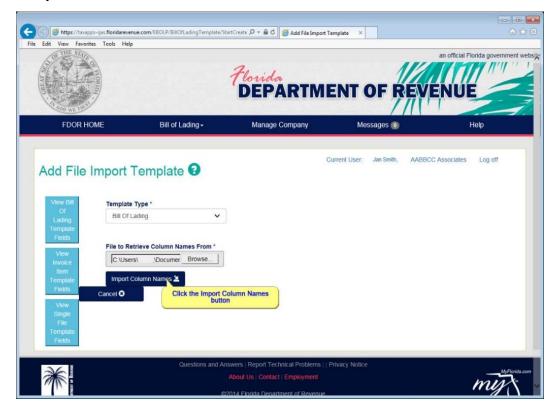
#### Select your Bill of Lading file.

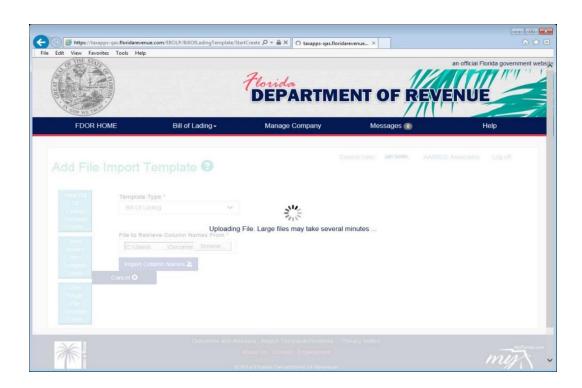


#### Click the **Open** button.

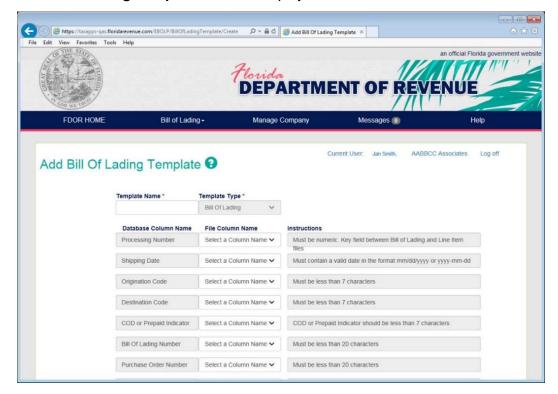


#### Click the Import Column Names button.

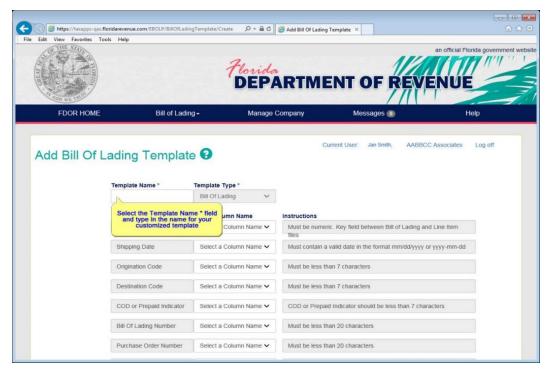




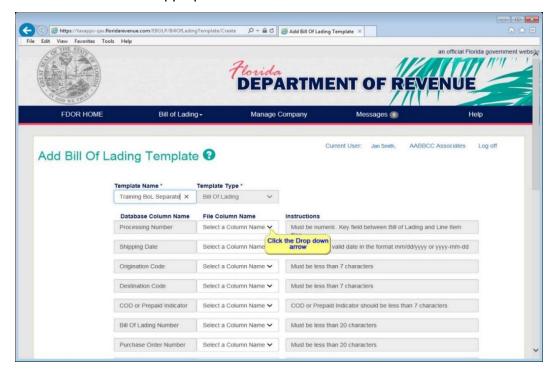
#### The "Add Bill of Lading Template" screen displays:

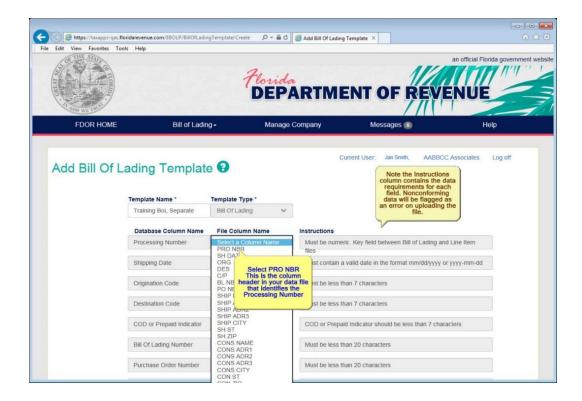


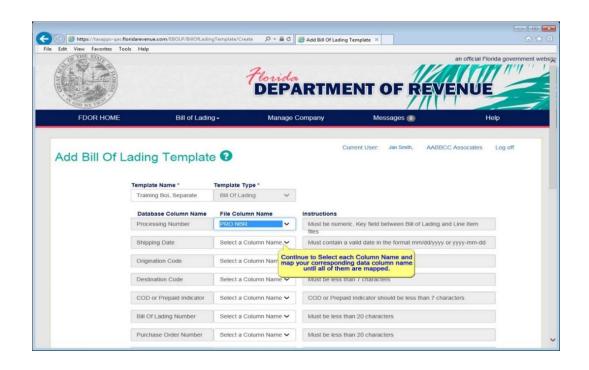
Select the **Template Name\*** field and type in a name for your template.

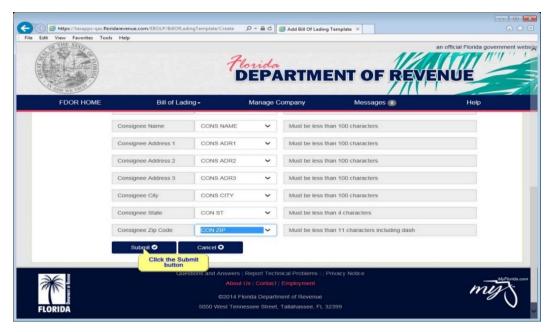


The next step is to map the Database Column Name to the File Column Name. This ensures that the data is loaded to the appropriate database column.





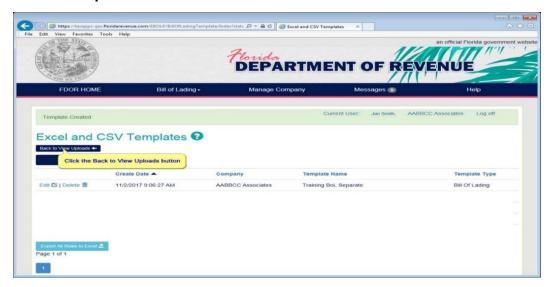


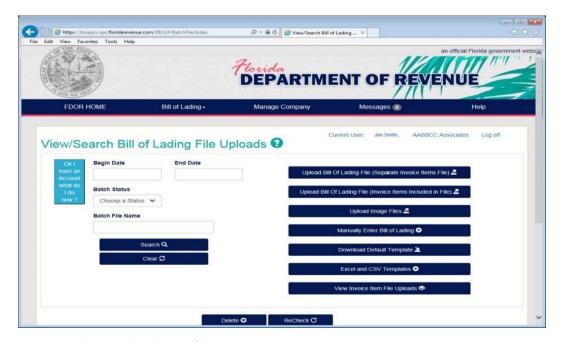


If you are uploading a BoL file that includes the Invoice Items, there is no need to customize an Invoice Items template.

If you arrived here from the Upload BoL File Invoice Items Included process, click the following link to return to <u>Upload Bill of Lading File (Invoice Items Included in File)</u>.

This is the appropriate time to **customize the Invoice Items template**. Perform the same steps as you did for the BoL template, but select Invoice Items as the Template Type instead of Bill of Lading. When you have finished customizing and submitting the Invoice Items template, click the **Back to View Uploads** button.



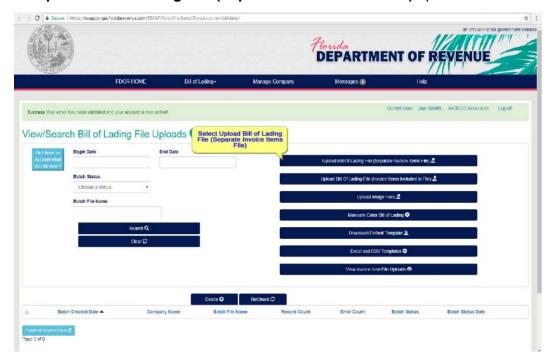


You are now ready to upload your files.

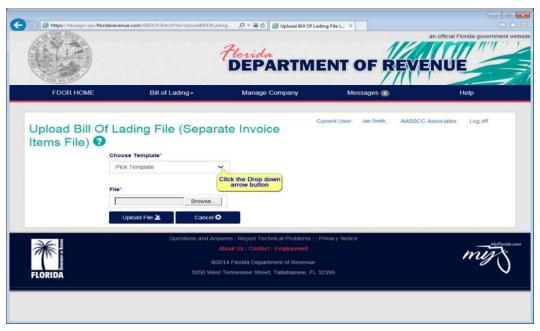
## **Upload Bill of Lading File (Separate Invoice Items File)**

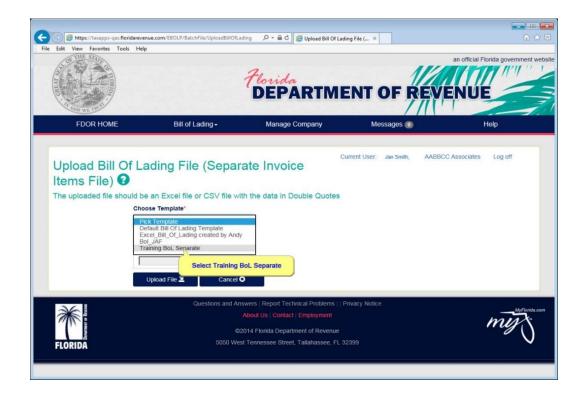
This option is used when your data is stored in two separate files — one file containing the BoL data and the other file containing the Invoice Item data.

Select the Upload Bill of Lading File (Separate Invoice Items File) option.

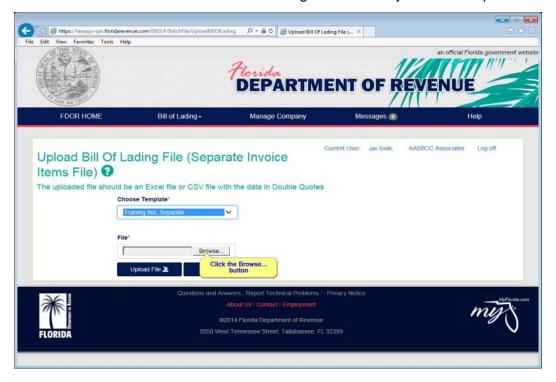


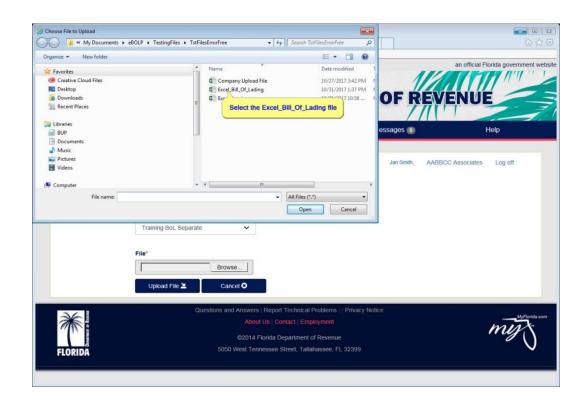
Display the drop-down list for the **Choose Template\*** field and select your customized BoL template.

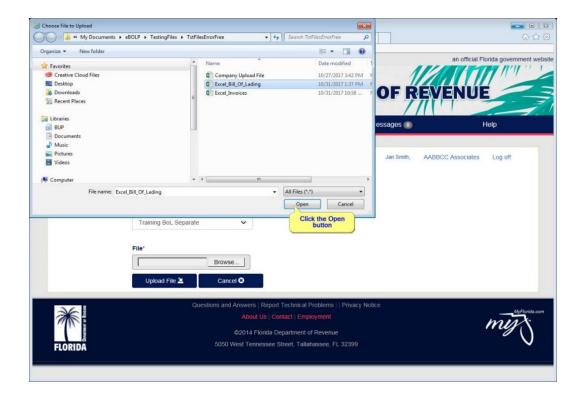




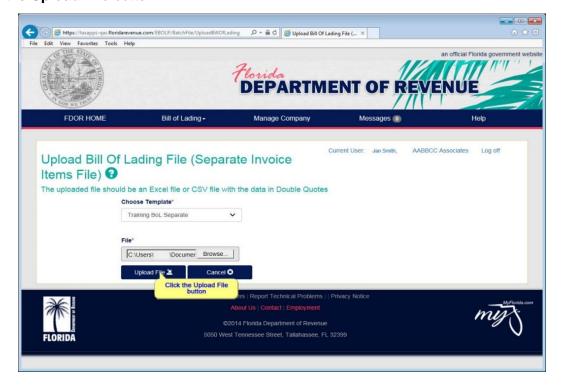
Click the **Browse** button and select the Bill of Lading data file that you want to upload.



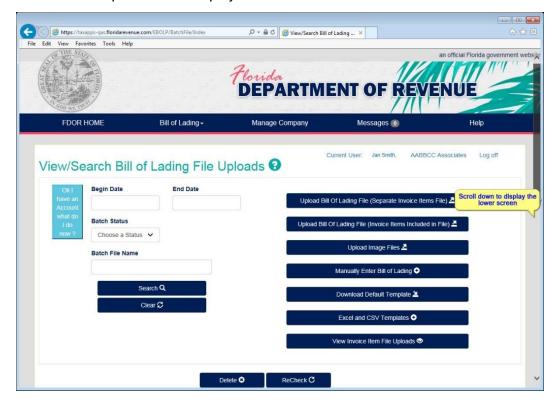




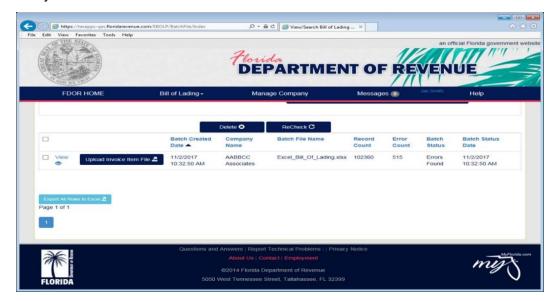
#### Click the **Upload File** button.



Scroll down until the upload detail displays.



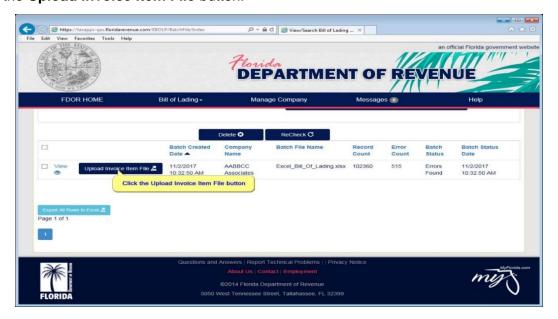
If the batch status is **Errors Found**, compare the Error count with the Records count. When the numbers are the same, or very close, review the data file and the template file for compliance to standards. Otherwise, continue to the next step of uploading the **Invoice Item File**. FDOR personnel will determine if the error count is significant enough to make the file unusable. FDOR will contact you to discuss a course of corrective action.



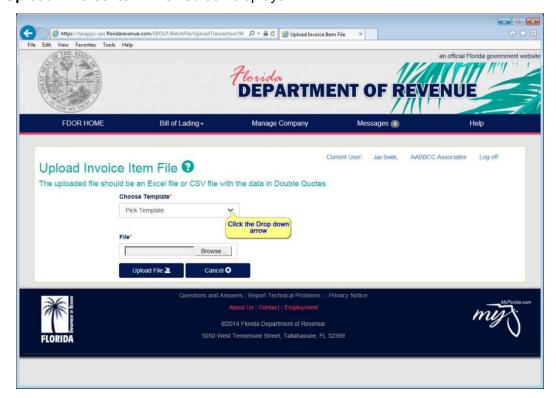
## **Upload Separate Invoice Items File**

Note: Before uploading the Invoice Items file, ensure that an appropriate template exists. Refer to: Create Customized Templates

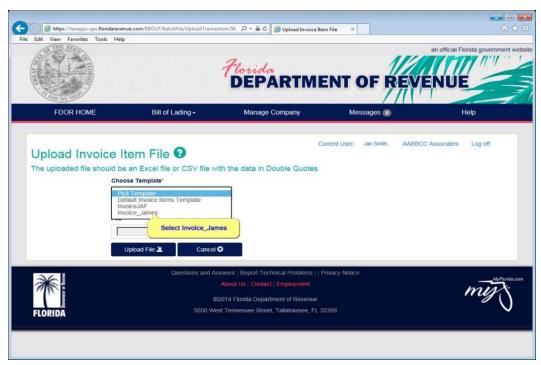
Click the Upload Invoice Item File button.



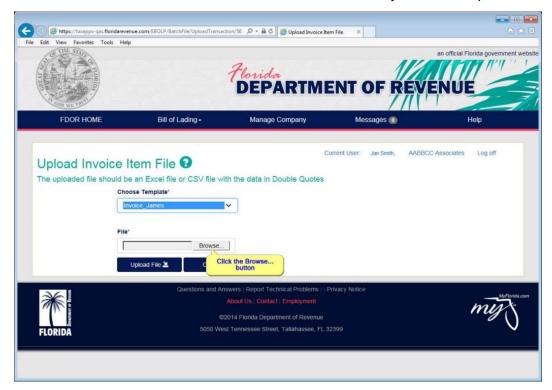
The "Upload Invoice Item File" screen displays:

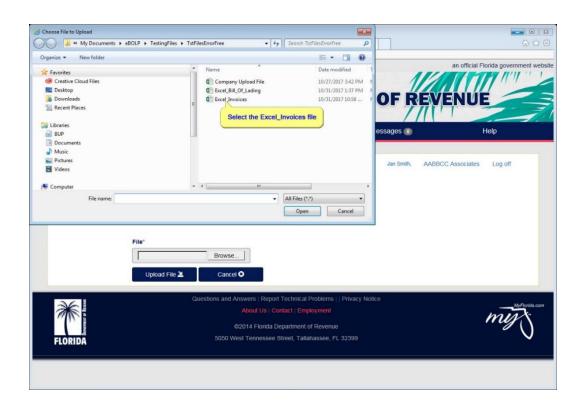


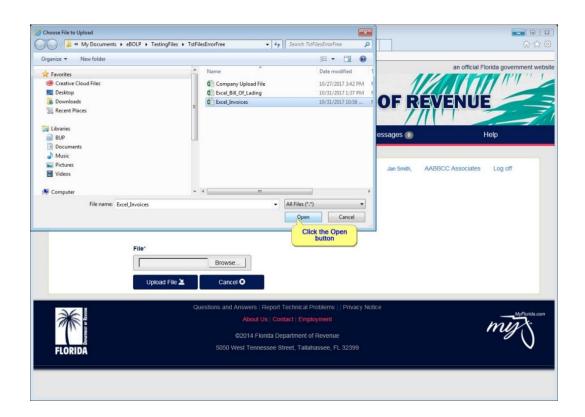
Display the drop-down list for the **Choose Template\*** field and select your customized Invoice Item template.



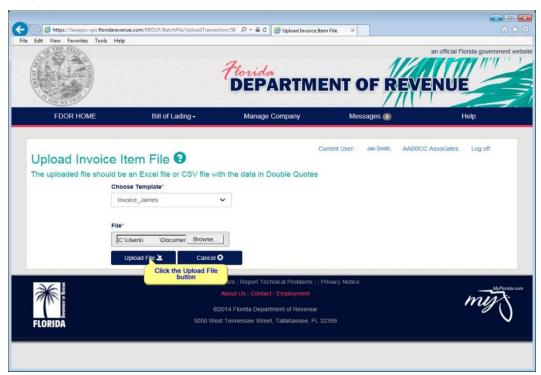
Click the **Browse** button and select the Invoice Item data file that you want to upload.



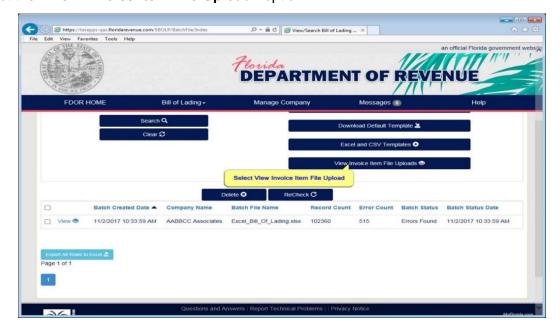




#### Click the **Upload File** button.

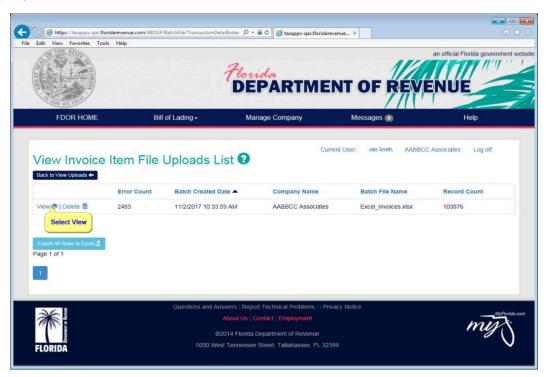


#### Select the "View Invoice Item File Upload" option.

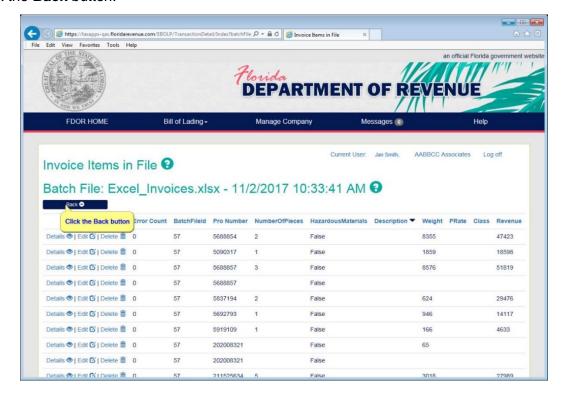


If the Error Count and the Records count are the same, or very close, review the data file and the template file for compliance to standards. Otherwise you have completed your uploads. FDOR personnel will determine if the error count is significant enough to make the file unusable. FDOR will contact you to discuss a course of corrective action.

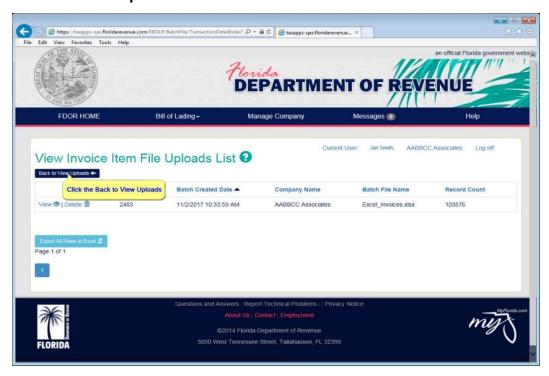
#### Select View.

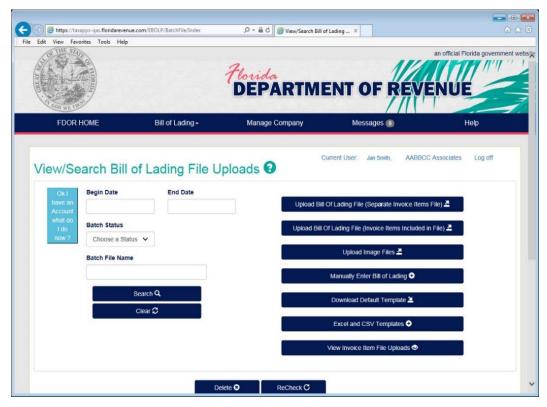


#### Click the Back button.



#### Click the Back to View Uploads button.





Use this link to skip to the steps on: View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads

## **Upload Bill of Lading File (Invoice Items Included in File)**

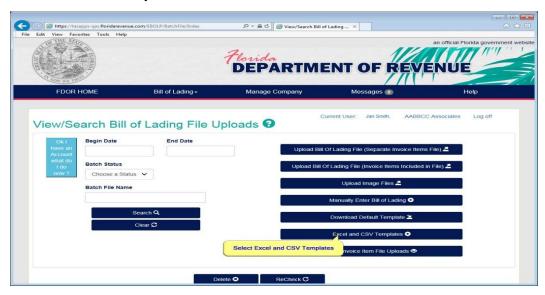
The following steps are performed when your Bill of Lading and Invoice Item detail are contained in a single file. Before attempting to upload any files, you need to customize a BoL template to match your data file. You need to customize the template the first time you upload and thereafter only when your data file format changes.

Refer to the Create Templates for your Uploads

section for the Create Templates process.

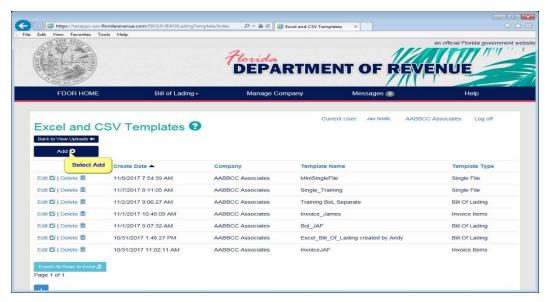
From the "View/Search Bill of Lading Uploads" screen, proceed as follows:

Select Excel and CSV Templates.



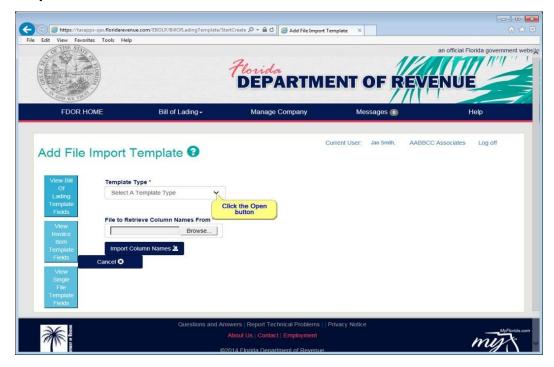
The "Excel and CSV Templates" screen displays:

Select Add.

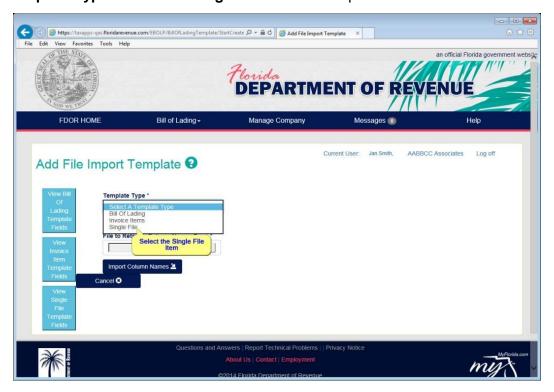


#### The "Add File Import Template" screen displays:

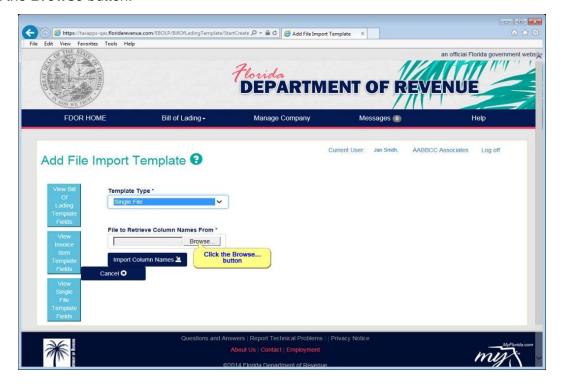
Click the **Open** button.



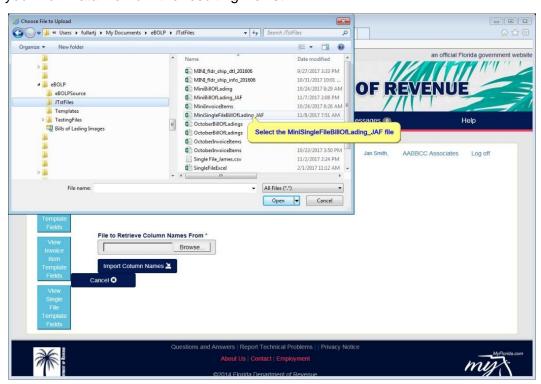
In the **Template Type\*** field select **Single File** from the drop-down list.



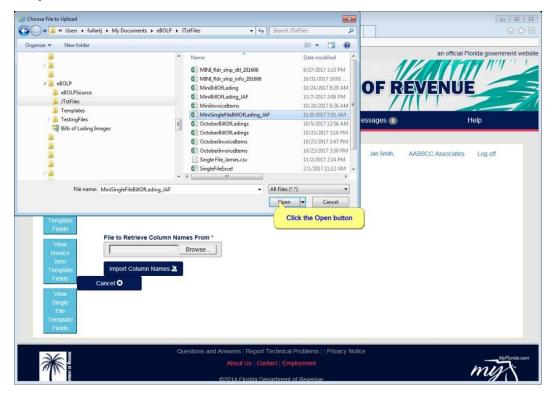
#### Click the Browse button.



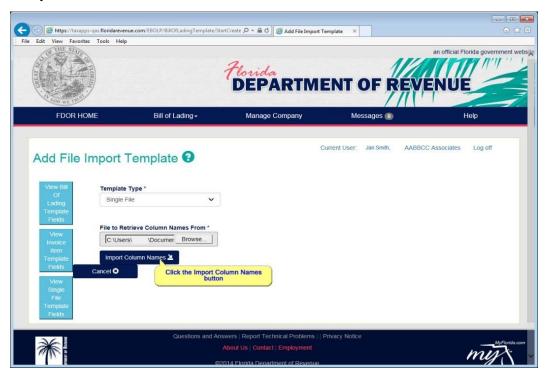
Select your BoL Data file from the resulting file list.



#### Click the **Open** button.

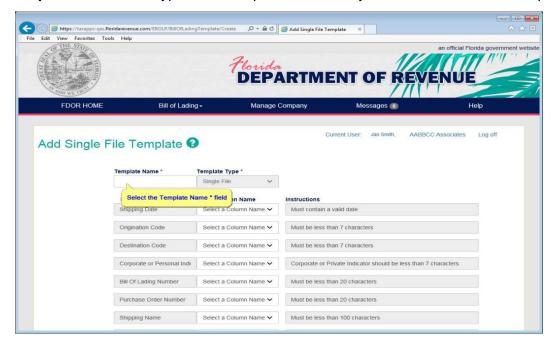


#### Click the Import Column Names button.



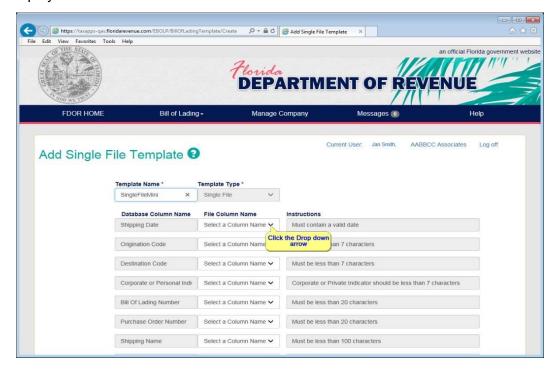
### The "Add Single File Template" screen displays:

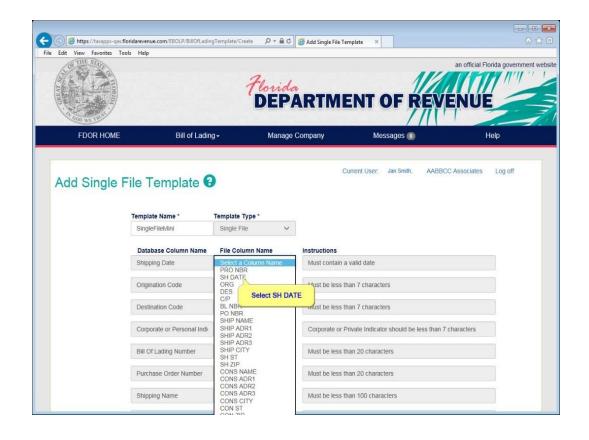
In the **Template Name\*** field type in the template name that you want to use for this template.

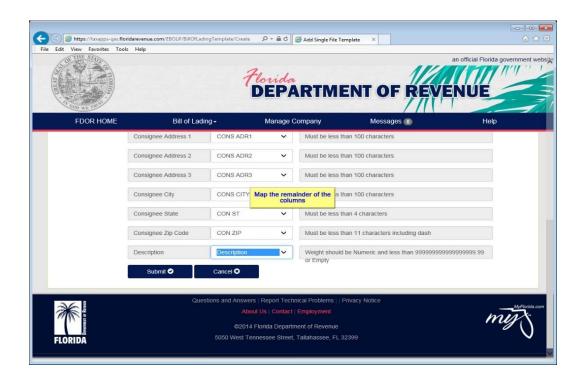


The next step is for you to map your **File Column Names** to the Database Column Names.

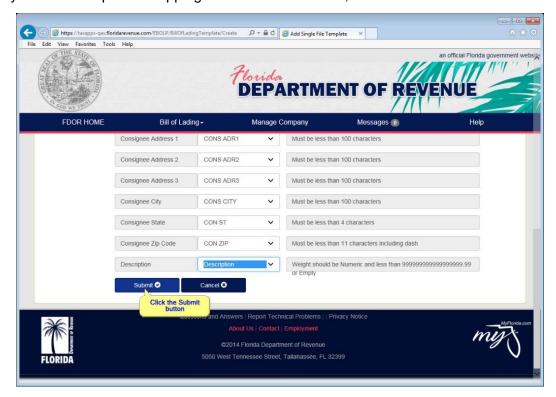
Select each File Column field in turn and map the appropriate Column Header to the column name displayed in the Database Column Names field.



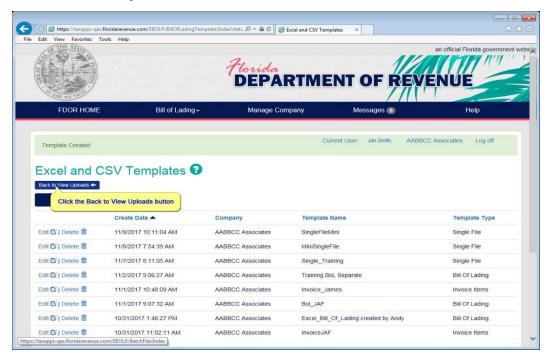




When you have completed mapping all the column names, click the **Submit** button.

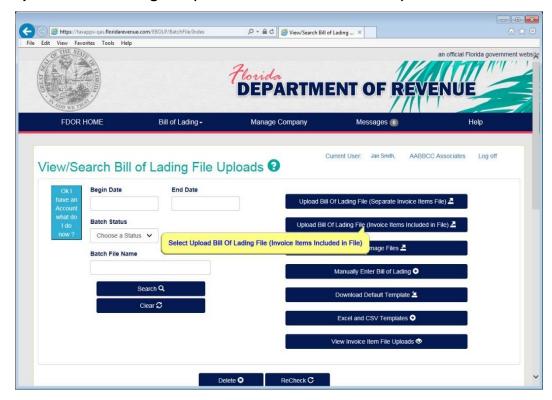


The "Excel and CSV Template" screen displays a Template Created confirmation message. Click the Back to View Uploads button.



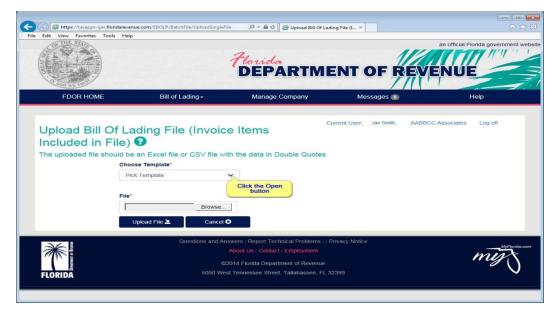
The "View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads" screen displays:

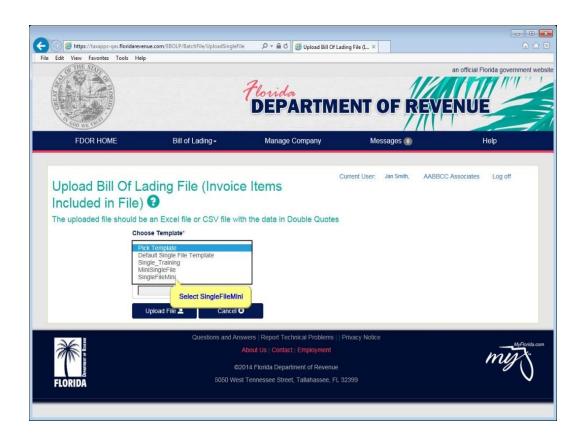
Select Upload Bill of Lading File (Invoice Items Included in File).



The "Upload Bill Of Lading File (Invoice Items Included in File)" screen displays:

In the **Choose Template\*** field choose your customized template for single file uploads from the drop-down list.



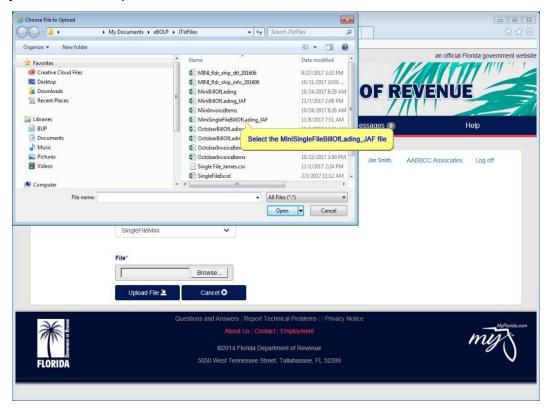


#### Click the **Browse** button.

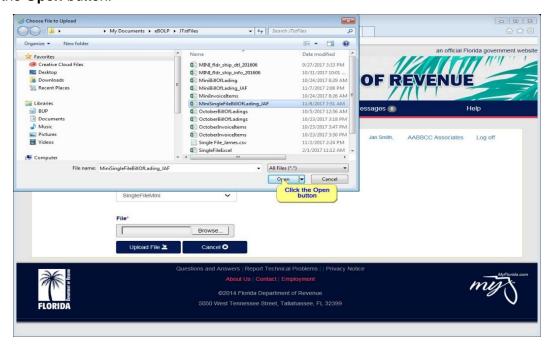


# The "Choose File to Upload" pop-up displays:

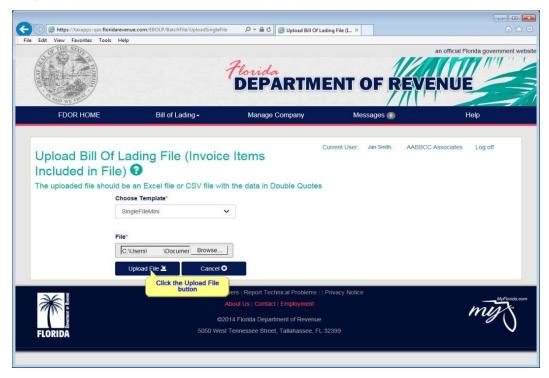
Select your data file to upload.

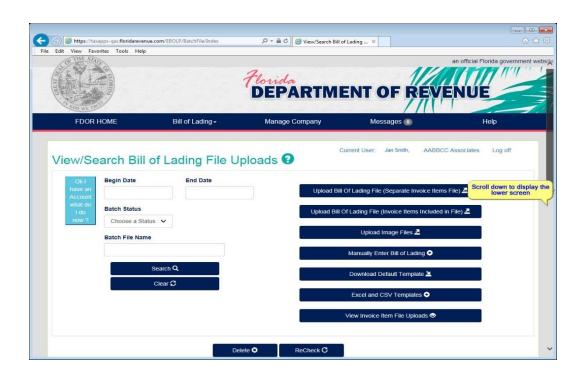


## Click the Open button.

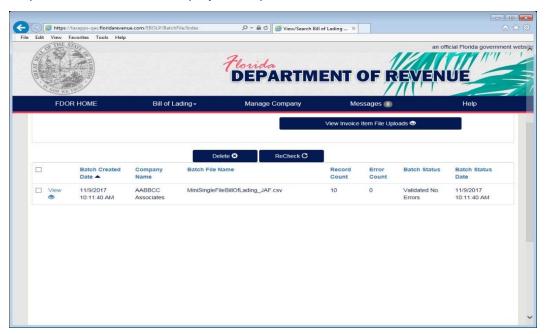


The "Upload Bill Of Lading File (Invoice Items Included in File)" screen displays: Click the Upload File button.





The lower portion of this screen displays the uploaded file Record and Error counts.



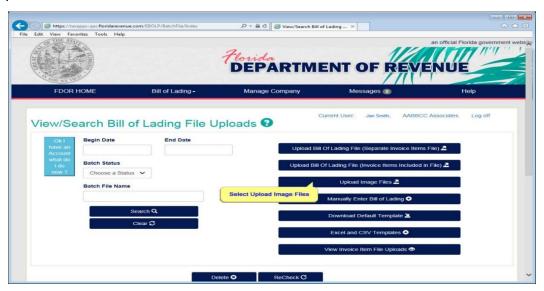
Use this link to skip to the steps on: View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads

# **Upload Image File**

Images of the BoL can be uploaded to EBOLP providing they comply with the following:

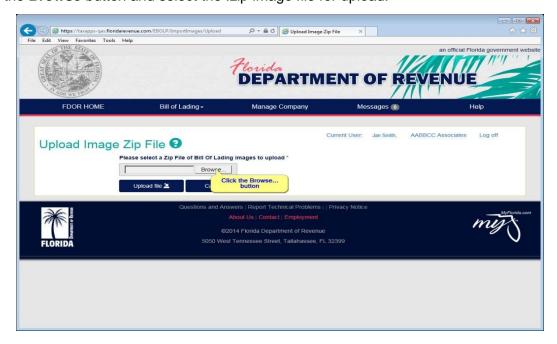
- Scanned images must be in .tif format, and
- All the image files for a batch must be contained in a single .zip file.

Start from the "View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads" screen. Select the Upload Image Files option.



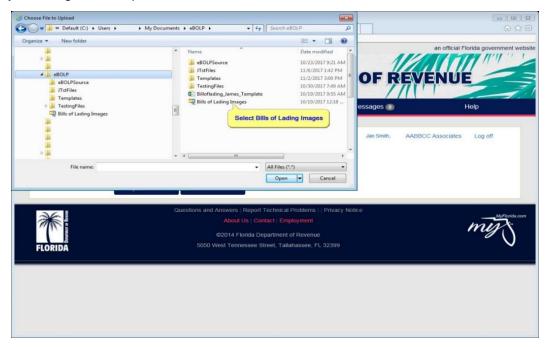
The "Upload Image Zip File" screen displays:

Click the **Browse** button and select the .zip image file for upload.

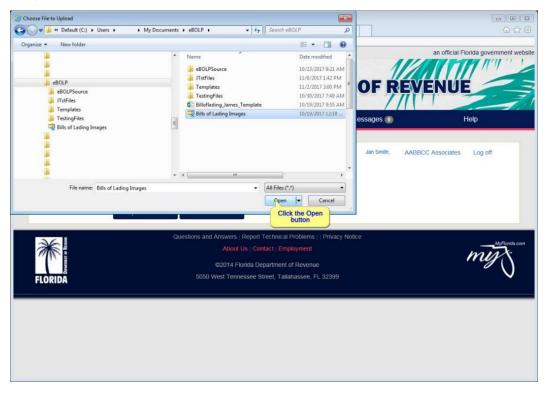


# The "Choose File to Upload" pop-up displays:

Select your image file to upload.

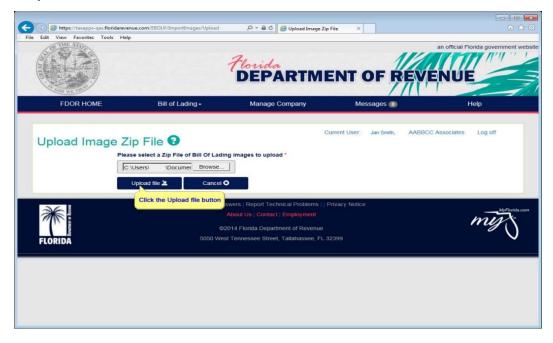


## Click the **Open** button.



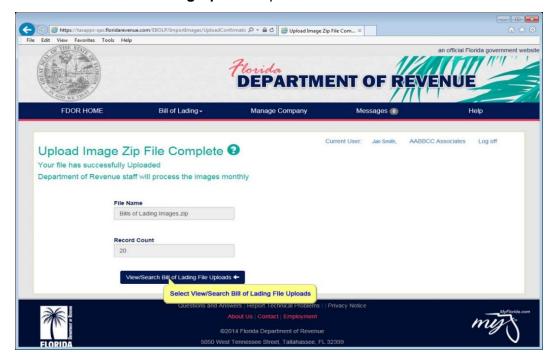
The "Upload Image Zip File" screen displays:

Click the **Upload File** button.

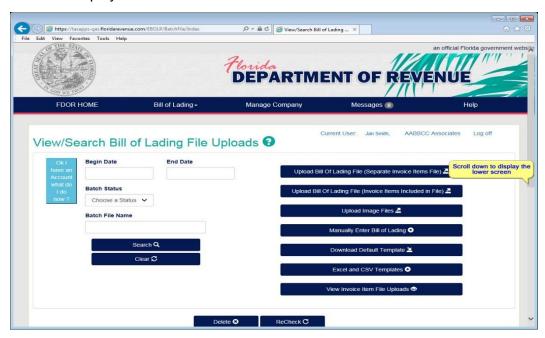


The "Upload Image Zip File Complete" screen displays with a successfully uploaded message.

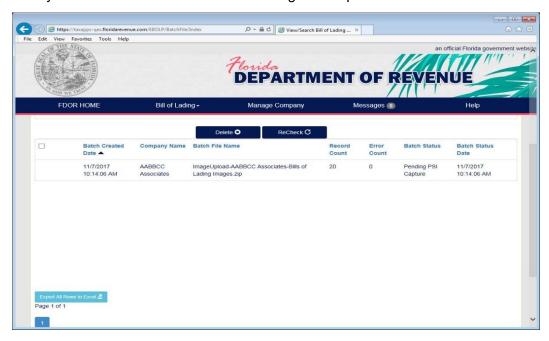
Select View/Search Bill of Lading Uploads option.



The "View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads" screen displays: Scroll down until the uploaded file list displays.



You will see your file listed with a status of Pending PSI Capture.



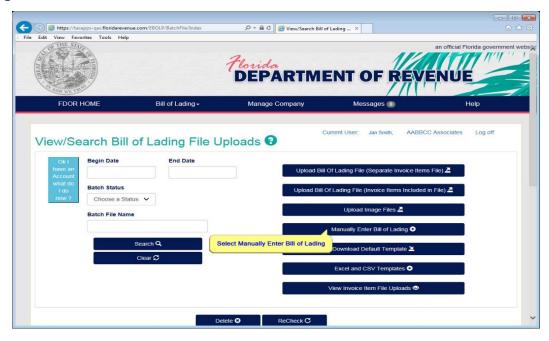
FDOR personnel will review the file and accept or reject the file. You will be informed if your file is rejected.

Use this link to skip to the steps on: View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads

# **Manually Enter Bill of Lading**

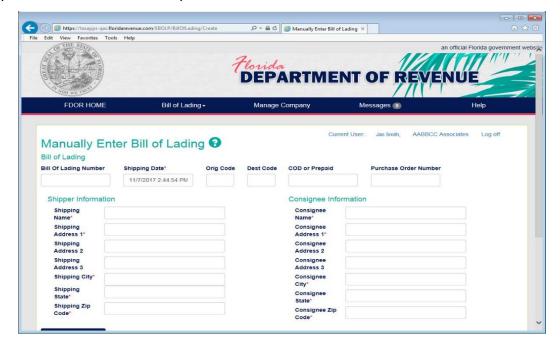
This feature allows you to manually enter a BoL that has at least one invoice item.

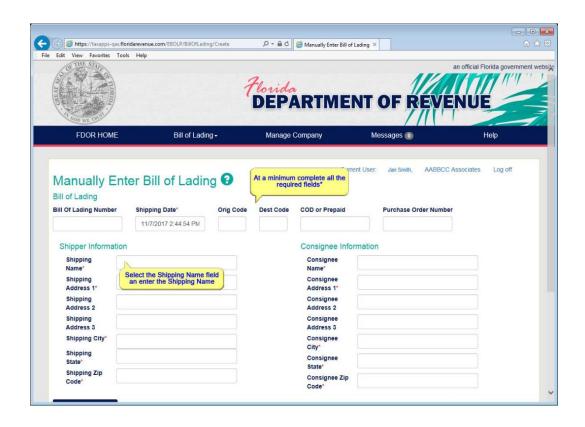
From the "View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads" screen, select Manually Enter Bill of Lading.



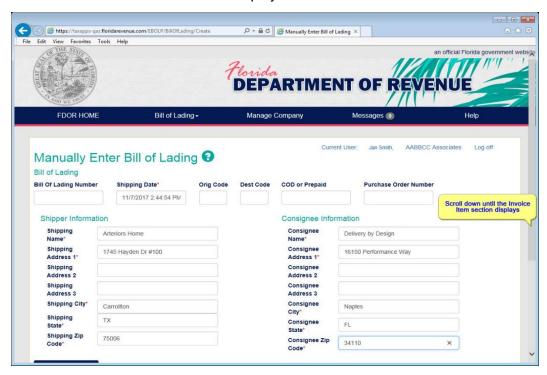
The "Manually Enter Bill of Lading" screen displays:

Complete, at a minimum, the required fields\*.

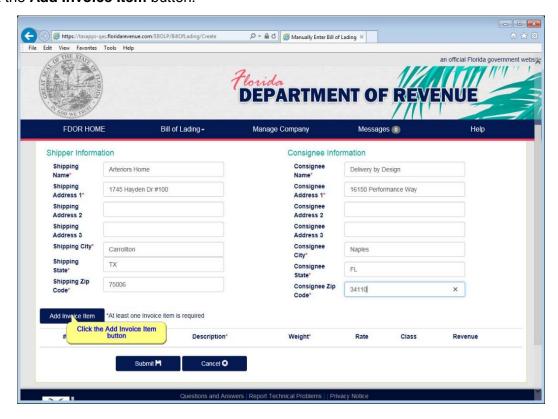




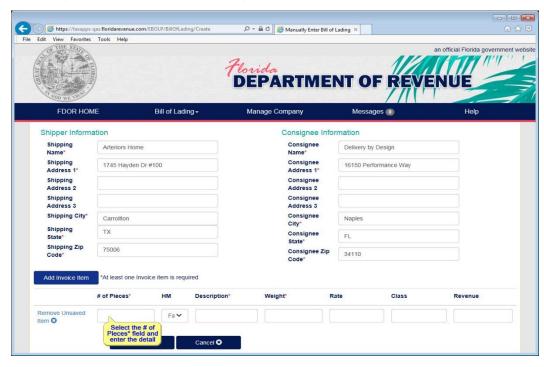
Scroll down until the Invoice Item section displays:



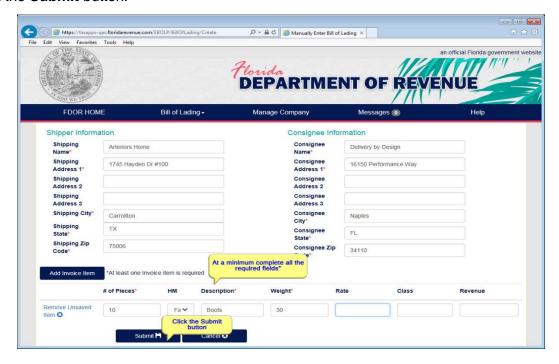
#### Click the Add Invoice Item button.



Select and complete, at a minimum, the required fields\*.

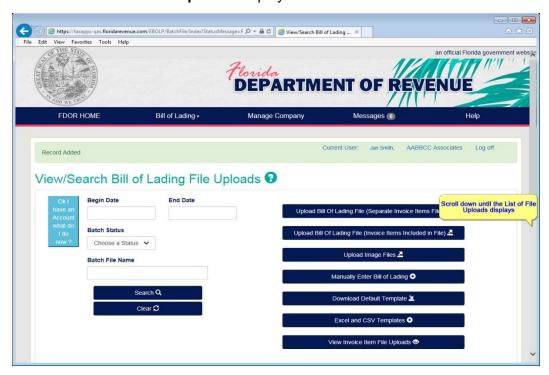


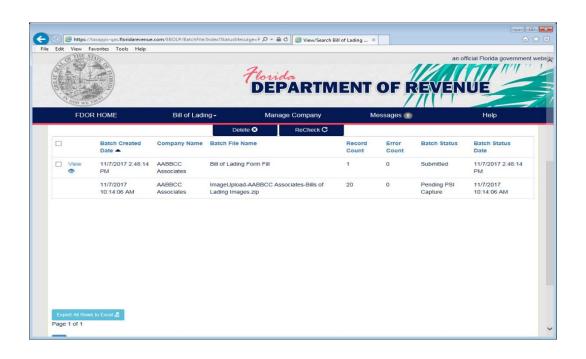
#### Click the **Submit** button.



The "View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads" screen displays confirming that a record has been added.

Scroll down until the List of File Uploads displays.





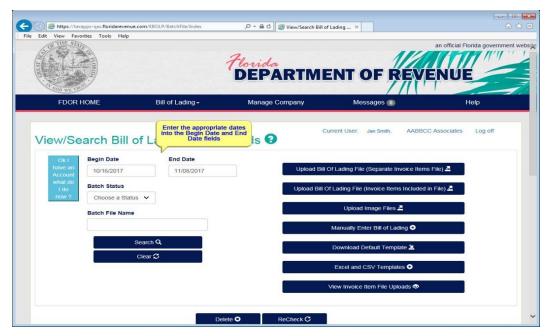
# View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads

The View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads screen, as the name implies, provides a search function that allows you to search for uploaded files within a date range and having a specific status. You can also search for a specific batch by entering the batch file name as a search parameter.

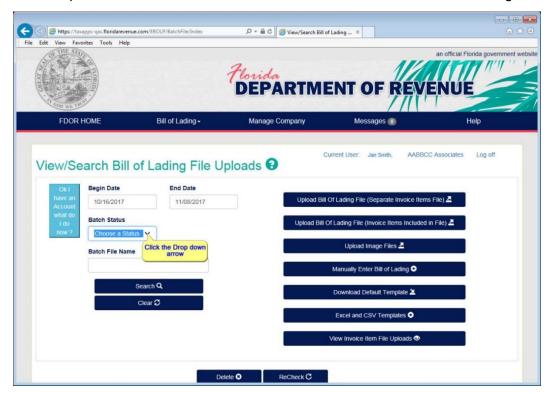
The following series of screen captures show first searching for uploaded files within a specified date range and with a status of Error Found. It then goes on to show the changing of the status to search for those files with a status of Submitted.

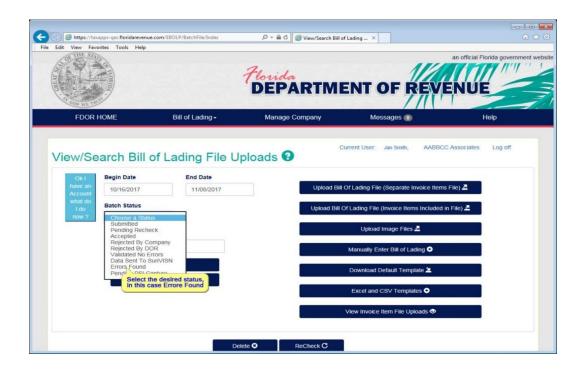
From the "View/Search Bill of Lading File Uploads" screen proceed as follows.

Enter the Begin Date and End Date in their respective fields.



Click on the Drop-down arrow and select the status of Error Found from the resulting list.





### Available status are:

#### **Submitted**

Data file and any changes made have been submitted. Recheck should be run on the data file to ensure that it is error free.

#### **Pending Recheck**

Status indicates that the file will need further review prior to being certified acceptable and complete.

#### **Accepted**

The file has been ACCEPTED. For files to be accepted, the BoL file must have an error count = 0 and the Company Name file must have an error count = 0 and a status of Approved.

#### Rejected by Company

Company has rejected the file due to incorrect file uploaded or has another reason to abort the upload.

## Rejected by FDOR

The file has been rejected due to an excessive error count or for some other condition that makes it unusable.

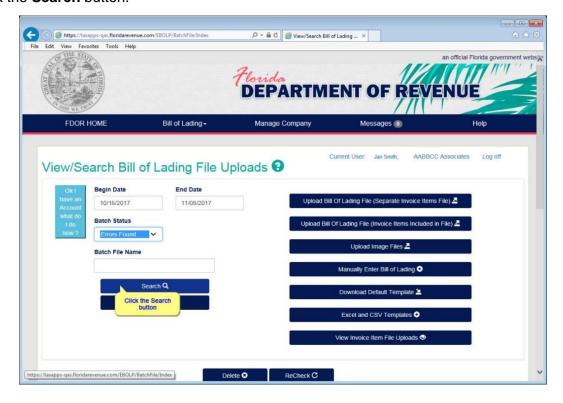
#### **Validated No Errors**

The file has been successfully uploaded without errors.

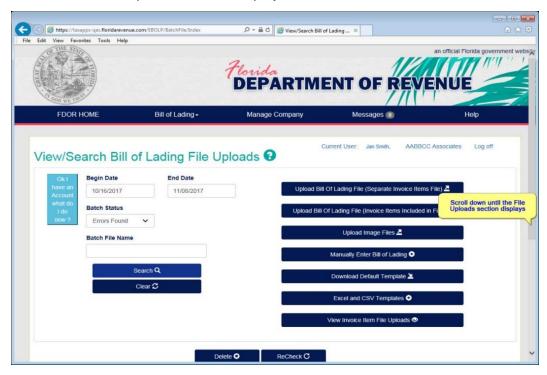
#### **Errors Found**

The data file contains errors that were found during the upload validation.

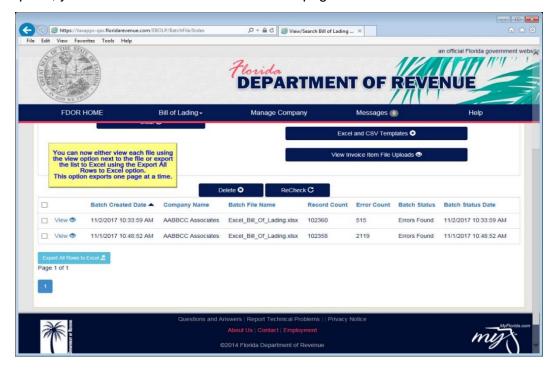
#### Click the **Search** button.



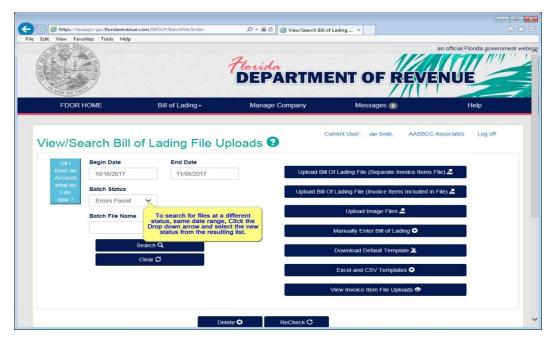
Scroll down until the File Uploads section displays.



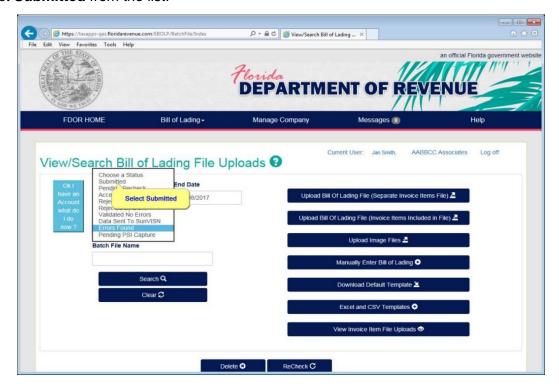
You are now able to either View a file by selecting the view option to the left of each file or export the list of files to Excel by selecting the Export All Rows to Excel function below the list, bottom left. The Export All Rows to Excel will export one page of rows at a time. For multiple page exports, you must select the function for each page.



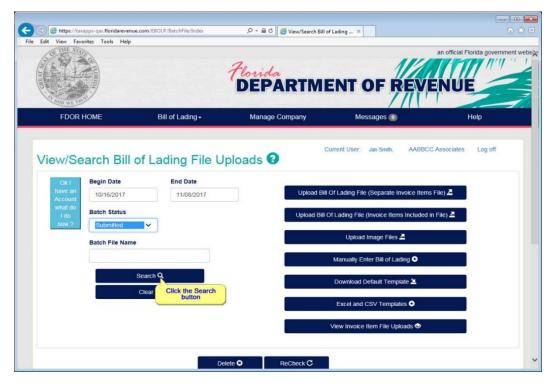
The following shows changing the status search parameter to Submitted to search for files at that status.



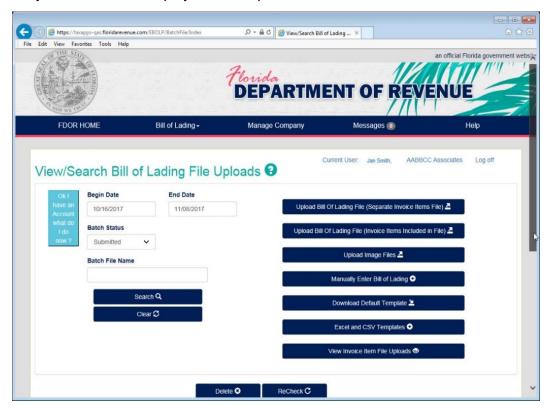
#### Select Submitted from the list.

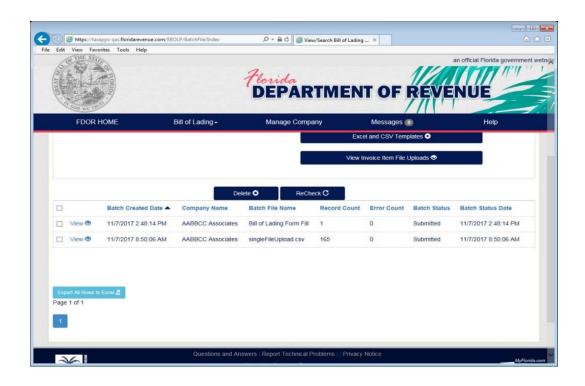


## Click the **Search** button.



If necessary, scroll down to display the File Uploads list.





# Summary

This User Guide has attempted to provide you with the information you require to:

- Register your company in EBOLP
- Create BoL and Invoice Item templates
- Upload BoL files to EBOLP
- View and Search for BoL uploaded files

Should you experience problems in any of these areas that cannot be resolved using this user guide, please contact the Auditor named in the invitation letter as the initial support contact.