

TAXUD/477/2004 Rev. 9

Brussels, 22 September 2008

Annex 2 – Electronic customs systems and projects

2008 YEARLY REVISION

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VERSION CONTROL

Date	Version	Action	By
4/5/2006	7.0.	Amended to bring in line with Doc 1016/2006	P Young
21/6/2006	7.1.	Update following internal DG TAXUD discussions	F Janssens, E Kanovska, M Cabral
26/9/2006	7 ECG update	Update following ECG meeting of 20/9/2006	E Kanovska, P Young, M Cabral, F Janssens
14/5/2007	8.0	Updated to current situation	E Kanovska
19/11/2007	8	Update following agreement of the author's position in ECG meeting of 11/9/2007 and CPG meeting of 10/10/2007	E Kanovska
7/4/2008	9.1	Updated to current situation	DG TAXUD
8/5/2008	9.2	Updated after internal TAXUD review	DG TAXUD
21/8/2008	9.3	Updated following review ECG meeting of 10 July 2008	DG TAXUD
22/09/2008	9 final	Updated following final review ECG meeting of 17 September 2008	DG TAXUD

Current revision

This revision of Annex 2 of the Multi-Annual Strategic Plan (Rev.9) contains the following main changes (as compared to Rev.8):

- Projects' milestones and legal basis have been updated:
 - to take into account the evolution of projects during 2007,
 - with the view to the adoption of the Electronic Customs Decision (Decision No 70/2008/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2008 on a paperless environment for customs and trade, OJ 2008, No L 23, p. 21) and of the Modernised Customs Code;
- some restructuring took place in classification of the projects into the groups to ensure their compatibility.

This revision does not yet contain all the systems required by the Modernised Customs Code; insofar an in-depth examination inside the Commission services is taking place.

Purpose of this Annex

This Annex to the MASP, relating particularly to its sections 6 (Operational convergence) and 7 (Development of information and communication technology customs systems), gives an overview of all projects directly or indirectly related to electronic customs in separate tables.

This Annex should be seen as an overall project management tool and as a commitment by all parties to respect the deadlines set out in it. In so far as legal acts are applicable, the legal deadlines thereof were used.

The Annexe is intended to be comprehensive but readable: some of the more specific details will therefore be found in other documents (e.g. user requirements or functional/technical specifications).

Nevertheless, the projects are interlinked and in some cases even interdependent on each other. In fact, the coherence of these projects and the re-use of activity blocks directly impacts on the return on investment on both the business and customs sides.

The tables in this document are divided into projects related to customs operational systems, trade access, customs tools, longer term developments and other projects which do not require IT systems but which are important to the success of electronic customs projects.

The tables contain the following information:

- 1.) Objectives
- 2.) Advantages
- 3.) Milestones and deadlines
- 4.) Legal basis
- 5.) Current key activities
- 6.) Dependencies

This Annex is, just like the MASP itself, an evolving document required by the Electronic Customs Decision. It will be continuously updated to reflect progress in the development and implementation of electronic customs. However, each revision of this Annex will have a clear review process, leading to an agreed document, intended to ensure that all parties involved are working towards a common set of goals and within an agreed timeframe. This process is set out in section 9 of the MASP.

Milestones

The milestones have two indicators: relative and estimated.

The relative dates show the number of months after the start of a project (T_0) a milestone is expected to be reached. The estimated dates show the date the milestone should be reached on the basis of information available at the time of writing. Should there be any inconsistency in dates between this Annex and Annex 1, this Annex prevails.

In some cases, T_0 is triggered by a legal event. If this event is delayed, the estimated date will change but the relative date (i.e. the length of time a project requires) will remain unchanged.

The relative and estimated dates showed **in bold** are those for which agreement is being sought in the review process. The timetable for the review/acceptance of this Annex (as a part of the MASP acceptance) is as follows:

First discussion at the ECG	15 May 2008
Comments from MS	16 June 2008
Consolidated list of comments prepared with author's position	July 2008
ECG meeting acquainted with author's position	10 July 2008
ECG meeting agrees the revised MASP based on author's position	17 September 2008
Approval of the MASP at CPG (Deputies)	22 October 2008
[Revised version taking account of comments by CPG	[TBA]]

Acronyms and Abbreviations used in the MASP

Acronym	Description
ACP	Countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific
AEO	Authorised Economic Operators system
AES	Automated Export System
AIS	Automated Import System
ATIS	Anti-Fraud Transit Information System
BPM	Business Process Model
BTI	Binding Tariff Information
CC	Centralised Clearance
CCN	Common Communication Network
CCN/CSI	Common Communications Network / Common Systems Interface
CRMS	Customs Risk Management System
CN	Combined Nomenclature
COM	European Commission
DDS	Data Dissemination System
DG AGRI	Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development
DG TAXUD	Directorate General for Taxation and Customs Union
DG TRADE	Directorate General for Trade
OLAF	European Anti-Fraud Office
EBTI	European Binding Tariff Information
EC	European Commission/European Communities
ECICS	European Customs Inventory of Chemical Substances
ECIP	EU Customs Information Portal
ECG	Electronic Customs Group
ECS	Export Control System
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EMCS	Excise Movement and Control System
EP	European Parliament
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
EO	Economic Operator
EORI	Economic Operators Registration and Identification system

Acronym	Description
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
FTSS	Functional (Transit) System Specifications
GSP	Generalised System of Preferences
ICS	Import Control System
IRU	International Road Transport Union
I(C)T	Information (Communications) Technology
MASP	Multi-Annual Strategic Plan
MCC	Modernised Customs Code
MRN	Movement Reference Number
MS	Member State(s)
NA	National Administration
NCTS	New Computerised Transit System
REX	Registered Exporters
RIF	Risk Information Form
SEAP	Single Electronic Access Point
SPEED	Single Portal for Entry or Exit of Data
SW	Single Window
TARIC	Tarif Intégré des Communautés européennes
TIR	Transports Internationaux Routiers
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
USA	United States of America
VAT	Value Added Tax

1. CUSTOMS OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS

1.1. Automated Import System

1. Introduction – overall objective

The objective of the AIS is to ensure that import operations starting in one MS can be completed in another MS without re-submission of the same information. This includes the exchange of electronic messages related to the different stages of the operations amongst the various actors (customs, traders and other governmental administrations).

2. Organisation of the project and overall timing

For reasons of convenience and the need to take account of different legal bases, the development of this project has been divided into 2 phases:

- a. ICS – reflecting the requirements of safety and security controls at import ("entry summary declarations") linked to Regulation (EC) No 648/2005 and Reg. 1875/2006– date of operation 1 January 2009 in first MS with full operation in all MS on 1 July 2009;
- b. AIS – full deployment by 2013.

1.1.1. Import Control System – Safety and Security Aspects

1. Objectives

The objective of this phase is to provide for the handling of entry summary declarations and the link of the information with risk analysis on the data submitted.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: fast reception and treatment (notably, risk analysis) of the entry summary declarations; better control of movements and a more rational use of resources available for control;
- for the economic operators: the possibility to lodge the entry summary declaration at a different customs office than the customs office of first entry.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	T ₀	8 September 2006	User requirements approved ✓

2	+ 19 m	28 March 2008	Functional specifications approval ✓
3	+ 20 m	21 April 2008	Technical specifications approval ✓
3a	+ 25 m	30 September 2008	Publication of consolidated technical specifications ✓
4	+ 28 m	31 December 2008	National technical specifications available
5	+ 28 m	1 January 2009	Start of deployment in first MS
6	+ 34 m	1 July 2009	Full operation in all MS
4. Legal basis <i>Regulation (EC) No 648/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council ("amendment to the Customs Code, Regulation (EC) No 648/2005", "security amendment")</i> Art. 36b (1): Common data set for entry summary declaration Art. 36b (2): Electronic entry summary declarations Art. 36a (2): Electronic exchange of data between the customs offices concerned (e.g. customs office of lodgement and customs office of entry) <i>Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 for the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Community Customs Code ("Customs Code implementing provisions as amended by Reg. (EC) No 1875/2006")</i> Art. 4d, 4e Electronic data exchange Art. 181b-187 Entry summary declaration Annex 30A Data elements			
5. Current key activities Customs Code Committee Adjustment of legal provisions. Member States Preparation of national technical specifications.			
6. Dependencies a. Required for the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. National risk analysis application ii. CRMS b. Project is a prerequisite for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. AIS c. Link to other projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. AEO ii. EORI 			

1.1.2. Automated Import System – Centralised Clearance and Simplifications

1. Objectives

The objective is to allow the full computerisation, based on the national IT systems, of the import procedure in cases where the customs authorities of more than one MS are involved, enabling electronic exchange of information between customs offices and traders.

It will keep and expand the functions of ICS, and in particular it will add the notification of arrival and the presentation of goods, and the centralised clearance approach.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: a more effective procedure for reception and treatment of all information linked to the import declarations; better control of incoming movements and a more rational use of resources for control;
- for the economic operators: easier connection with the customs authorities via "centralised" clearance at import, making, inter alia, the use of transit procedure superfluous.

3. Milestones and deadlines

T₀ – Starting point of the development cycle corresponding to the adoption of the MCC + 6 m (to enable the start-up of the IT project).

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
0	T₀	31 December 2008	Business Process Model of MCC systems ready
1	+ 12 m	31 December 2009	User requirements approval
2	+ 21 m	30 September 2010	Functional specifications approval
3	+ 30 m	30 June 2011	Technical specifications approval
4	+ 36 m	31 December 2011	National technical specifications available
5	+ 42 m	1 July 2012	Start of deployment in first MS
6	+ 53 m	15 May 2013	Full operation in all MS

4. Legal basis

Regulation (EC) No 450/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2008 laying down the Community Customs Code (Modernised Customs Code) ("MCC ") and its implementing provisions

Art. 106

5. Current key activities

Commission

Evaluation of the outcomes of AIS working group; in depth examination of all systems required, definition of the overall architecture of the systems.

Legal basis

Discussion of the MCC implementing provisions.

6. Dependencies**a. Required for the project:**

- i. ICS
- ii. AEO
- iii. EORI
- iv. CRMS

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

- i. SW

c. Link to other projects:

- i. ECIP
- ii. REX
- iii. AES
- iv. SEAP
- v. EBTI 3
- vi. SASP

1.2. New Computerized Transit System

1. Introduction – overall objective

The objective of the NCTS is to enable full control of the "core" transit procedure including the guarantee management and enquiry procedures, with the support of IT facilities. An additional feature will be the incorporation of the data elements required by the security amendment to the Community Customs Code.

2. Organisation of the project and overall timing

An electronic system – NCTS, covering Community/common transit, was fully implemented on and is available from 31 December 2005.

NCTS-TIR which provides for the control of the Community leg of TIR movements (given the close correlation between the data required for both procedures, the NCTS-TIR application operates entirely on the basis of the NCTS infrastructure) started its operations on 1 July 2005 as a pilot application with the application by all MS planned for 1 January 2009.

Phase 4 of NCTS implementation will cover:

- a. NCTS - Safety and Security – operational on 1 January 2009 in first MS and in all MS by 1 July 2009;
- b. NCTS – Enquiry/Recovery aiming at the upgrade of the enquiry procedure and the introduction of the recovery procedure to be operational by 1 July 2009.

1.2.1. NCTS – Safety and Security Aspects (including the ATIS amendments)¹

1. Objectives

NCTS will incorporate the additional features arising from the security amendment of the Customs Code, as well as those resulting from the implementing provisions. The ATIS amendment will enable the system to forward a copy of transit movements to DG OLAF for movements including sensitive goods.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: faster and more effective control/discharge of transactions involving goods in transit in the customs territory of the Community; more efficient handling at the offices of transit; With the "security amendment": possibility of re-using the already existing transit declaration for another purpose.

¹ The project is covered under NCTS Phase 4 in Annex 1.

- for the economic operators: time and cost savings arising from more effective functioning of the transit procedure; with the "security amendment": possibility of using a single declaration for 2 purposes.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones for transit core business

Final milestone 31 December 2005² Operational in all MS ✓

Milestones for safety and security aspects

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	T ₀	30 June 2006	User requirements (imbedded in functional specifications) ✓
2	+ 12 m	4 July 2007	Functional specifications approval ✓
3	+ 20 m	19 February 2008	Technical specifications approval ✓
4	+ 28 m	31 October 2008	National technical specifications available
5	+ 30 m	1 January 2009	Start of deployment in first MS
6	+ 36 m	1 July 2009	Full operation in all MS

4. Legal basis

Community Transit: Customs Code as last amended by Reg. (EC) No 648/2005 and Customs Code implementing provisions as last amended by Reg. 837/2005 and Reg. (EC) 1875/2006)

Common Transit: Convention on a Common Transit Procedure

5. Current key activities

Legal basis – Customs Code Committee-Transit Section/ EC- EFTA Working Group on Common Transit

Discussion and adoption of the implementing provisions and Convention on a Common Transit procedure in order to establish NCTS as the standard procedure.

Technical development – Electronic Customs Group (NCTS)

Monitoring the implementation of the project - production of periodic status reports.

Pending acceptance of the document "Specifications for implementing availability and continuity of NCTS".

Support activities

Ensure the functioning of the Central Help-Desk for the "call-management"

Further extension of NCTS (milestones yet to be defined)

Integration of the movements by rail and other modes of transport into NCTS.

² 22 January 2006 in the Netherlands

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

- i. National risk analysis applications
- ii. CRMS

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

-

c. Link to other projects:

- i. EORI
- ii. AEO
- iii. SPEED

1.2.2. NCTS - TIR

1. Objectives

The objective of this application (currently in the pilot phase) is to provide full control of the European leg of TIR movements and to facilitate the termination /discharge of TIR operations within the Community by replacing the physical return of Voucher No. 2 with the electronic transmission of NCTS messages.

A secondary objective is to influence the development of the so-called "e-TIR" project currently under development by the UNECE.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: faster and more effective control/discharge of TIR movements in the customs territory of the Community; no additional development costs are foreseen given that NCTS-TIR is entirely based on the NCTS infrastructure;
- for the economic operators: time and cost savings arising from more effective functioning of the TIR procedure.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	/	6 June 2005	Adoption of the NCTS/TIR guidelines (doc. TAXUD 1427/2005/rev.2) ✓
2	/	1 July 2005	Start of operation in first MS ✓
3	/	25 August 2006	Publication of agreed functional specifications ✓
4	T ₀	22 March 2007	Functional Specification to take account of some minor adaptations concerning data requirements ✓
5	+ 3 m	Summer 2007	Adoption of the legal basis for termination of the procedure by electronic

means ✓			
6	+ 3 m	30 June 2007	Technical specifications approval ✓
7	+ 9 m	31 December 2007	National technical specifications available ✓
8	+ 15 m	1 January 2009	Full operation in all MS
4. Legal basis <i>Customs Code implementing provisions</i> - legislative changes required in order to establish a legal basis for starting and ending the TIR procedure on the EC territory by electronic means (to be published)			
5. Current key activities Technical Development – NCTS/TIR Workshop Review and, where necessary, update the guidelines. Monitor IRU's contribution to facilitate the input of the carnet TIR data into the system.			
6. Dependencies a. Required for the project: i. NCTS b. Project is a prerequisite for: - c. Link to other projects: i. CRMS ii. EORI iii. NCTS Enquiry/Recovery			

1.2.3. NCTS – Enquiry/Recovery³

1. Objectives Upgrade of NCTS enquiry module and introducing the electronic recovery procedure to optimise the use of electronic systems.
2. Advantages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the transit discharge, enquiry and recovery procedure. • Shorter deadlines for the recovery of customs debt following enquiry procedure (reduction from 10 to 7 months / 1 month from date set for presentation of the goods).

³ The project is covered under NCTS Phase 4 in Annex 1.

- Improved implementation of the procedures used by all MS and parties to the Convention on Common Transit.
- Changes in the Community customs legislation, the Convention on Common Transit and the Transit Manual, especially in respect of procedures that were not yet described in the legislation or the manual.
- By laying down the procedures in legislation and by publishing the procedures in the Transit Manual both trader and customs know exactly how to handle the procedures.

3. Milestones

1	T ₀	6 July 2007	Update of functional specifications ✓
2	+ 7 m	19 February 2008	Technical specifications approval ✓
3	+ 16 m	31 October 2008	National technical specifications available
4	+ 24 m	1 July 2009	Operation in all MS and Contracting Parties

4. Legal basis

Community Transit: Customs Code and Customs Code implementing provisions, as amended (to be published)

Common Transit: Convention on a Common Transit Procedure, as amended (to be published)

5. Current key activities

Technical development:

Preparation of the national technical specifications.

Legal basis:

Documents TAXUD/1642/2006 final and TAXUD/1647/2006 final adopted on 10 September 2007, amending respectively the Convention on a Common Transit procedure and the Customs Code Implementing Provisions.

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

- i. NCTS

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

-

c. Link to other projects:

- i. CRMS
- ii. AEO
- ii. NCTS-TIR
- iii. EORI

1.3. Automated Export System

1. Introduction

The objective of the AES is to ensure that operations started in one MS can be finalised in another MS. This includes the exchange of electronic messages related to the different stages of the operations amongst the various actors (customs, traders and other governmental administrations).

2. Organisation of the project and overall timing

For reasons of convenience and the need to take account of differing legal bases the development of this project has been divided into 3 phases:

- a. ECS Phase 1 – exit "fiscal" control: operation started in January 2007 in several MS, with full application agreed from 1 July 2007;
- b. ECS Phase 2 – exit "security" control linked to the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 648/2005;
- c. AES – full deployment.

1.3.1. Export Control System Phase 1

1. Objectives

ECS Phase 1, as the initial step of the AES, is to provide for the full control of the conclusion of export operations through the electronic exchange of export/exit information between customs offices of export and customs offices of exit, in particular where different MS are involved.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: full control of the export/exit of goods from the customs territory of the Community, and more efficient handling of exiting movements at the offices of exit;
- for the economic operators: early confirmation of the operation, allowing for faster accounting of VAT deductions, export refunds, etc.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

1	/	19 December 2003	User requirements approval ✓
2	/	8 October 2004	Functional specifications approval ✓
3	/	31 January 2005	Technical specifications approval ✓
4	T ₀	8 January 2007	Start of deployment in first MS ✓
5	+ 6 m	1 July 2007	Full operation in all MS ✓

4. Legal basis

Customs Code implementing provisions as amended by Reg. No 1875/2006 to start ECS I

Art. 4d, 4e: Electronic data exchange

Art. 792: Creation of the possibility of replacing the "return of Copy 3" by the exchange of electronic messages

Art. 796a to 796e : Specific provisions applicable where export data is exchanged between customs authorities using information technology and computer networks

5. Current key activities

ECG

Coordination and monitoring of the operations of the system – production of periodic status reports.

Customs Code Committee + ECG

Examination of the reasons behind the high open movements rate and of means to reduce this rate.

Adjustment of some legal provisions.

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

-

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

i. ESC Phase 2

ii. AES

c. Link to other projects:

i. CRMS

1.3.2. Export Control System Phase 2

1. Objectives

The objective of this phase is to provide for the electronic handling of export declarations/export summary declarations under the security amendment, and will, inter alia, require additional information to be included in export declarations, for safety and security purposes.

This phase preserves and builds upon the functionalities delivered in ECS Phase 1, and will allow for a coherent transition period between the phases.

It also offers the possibility to refer to the EMCS system.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: fast reception and treatment (notably, risk analysis) of the pre-departure declarations; better control of movements, and a more rational use of resources for control;
- for the economic operators: flexibility in their connection with the customs authorities.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	T ₀	30 June 2006	User requirements (imbedded in functional specifications) ✓
2	+ 9 m	23 March 2007	Functional specifications approval ✓
3	+ 15 m	15 October 2007	Technical specifications approval ✓
4	+ 21 m	31 March 2008	National technical specifications available ✓
5	+ 30 m	16 December 2008	Start of deployment in first MS
6	+ 36 m	1 July 2009	Full operation in all MS

4. Legal basis

Customs Code as amended by Reg. (EC) No 648/2005

Art 182d (1):	Common data-set for pre-departure declarations
Art 182d (2):	Electronic pre-departure declarations
Art 182c (2):	Electronic exchange of data between the customs office of export and the customs office of exit

Customs Code implementing provisions as amended by Reg. (EC) No 1875/2006

Art 201:	Place of declaration and goods
Art. 592 a-g, 787-796e:	Export declaration
Art. 841:	Re-exportation
Art 842a-d:	Exit summary declaration
Annex 30A:	Data elements

5. Current key activities

Preparation of the national technical specifications.

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

- ECS Phase 1
- National risk analysis applications
- CRMS

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

i. AES

c. Link to other projects:

i. AEO

ii. EMCS

iii. EORI

iv. SPEED

1.3.3. Automated Export System – Centralised Clearance and Simplifications

1. Objectives

The objective of this phase is to allow for full computerisation, based on the national IT systems, of the export procedure, ensuring full integration of all export-related requirements (e.g. T 5, sanitary controls).

It builds upon and includes the functionalities of ECS Phases 1 and 2. In particular, it will add the centralised clearance approach.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: a completely automated procedure for the reception and treatment of all information linked to export declarations; including subsequent input to other national administrations and agencies where necessary;
- for the economic operators: an easier connection with all the customs authorities via the “centralised” clearance at export, avoiding, inter alia, the cumbersome procedures currently in force in "triangular" traffic.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

T₀ – Starting point of the development cycle corresponding to the adoption of the MCC + 6m (to enable the start-up of the IT project).

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
0	T₀	31 December 2008	Business Process Model of MCC systems ready
1	+ 12 m	31 December 2009	User requirements approval
2	+ 21 m	30 September 2010	Functional specifications approval
3	+ 30 m	30 June 2011	Technical specifications approval
4	+ 36 m	31 December 2011	National technical specifications available

5	+ 42 m	1 July 2012	Start of deployment in first MS
6	+ 53 m	15 May 2013	Full operation in all MS
4. Legal basis <i>MCC and its implementing provisions</i>			
5. Current key activities Commission In depth examination of all systems required, definition of the overall architecture of the systems. Legal basis Discussion of the MCC implementing provisions.			
6. Dependencies a. Required for the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. ECS ii. AEO iii. EORI iv. CRMS b. Project is a prerequisite for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. SW c. Link to other projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. ECIP ii. AIS iii. SEAP iv. EBTI 3 v. REX vi. SASP 			

2. TRADE ACCESS

2.1. EU Customs Information Portal

1. Objectives and description of the system

To enable economic operators to access information related to import/export requirements, as well as information on the operational status of movements through a customs information portal. Such a portal would mainly contain all relevant information about rules on the movement of goods across borders, and also relevant information from domains other than pure customs (e.g. agricultural, environmental and other legislation). This approach is in line with the e-Government roadmap.

Links will be provided to more detailed and/or national information featuring on the customs information portals of the national customs administrations. Also national administrations will be provided with an opportunity to feed info to the EU customs information portal.

2. Advantages

- for Commission and national administrations: reduced enquiries, leading to cost savings; it will ensure a further evolution of the Data Dissemination System and its integration into the ECIP.

- for economic operators: facilitated access to any information pertaining to customs transactions; it will also simplify the task of traders and allow them to save on training and expertise costs.

Can be used as a basic tool to prepare electronic declarations.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1			Identification of information to be integrated ✓
2	T ₀	30 June 2006	Draft user requirements ✓
3	+ 6 m	31 December 2006	User requirements and feasibility study approval ✓
4			Content under internal discussion in Commission services – agreement with MS by end 2008
5	+ 47 m	9 May 2010	Start of operation at Commission level
6	+ 51 m	1 September 2010	Start of operation in first MS
7	+ 56 m	15 February 2011	Full operation in all MS

4. Legal basis

Decision No 70/2008/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2008 on a paperless environment for customs and trade ("Electronic Customs Decision")

Art. 4 (2) Systems, services and time limits

5. Current key activities

Legal basis - Work carried out under the Customs 2007 Programme to ascertain whether there is any further need for legal proposals.

Other – defining way forward.

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

- i. DDS

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

-

c. Link to other projects:

- i. AIS
- ii. AES
- iii. SEAP
- iv. AEO
- v. EORI
- vi. SASP
- vii. SW

2.1.1. Data Dissemination System

1. Objectives

The main purpose of the DDS is to provide up-to-date customs related information applicable at Community level to both the business community and Member State administrations.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations and the economic operators: a single authoritative source for customs-related information;

DDS will become an integral part of the ECIP without losing its own distinctive character as a source of specialised information.

3. Milestones and deadlines

DDS: already operational

DDS2 deadline: September 2009

4. Legal basis

Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 of 23 July 1987 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff (OJ L 256, 7.9.1987, p. 1); Article 6.

5. Current key activities

IT

Development of DDS2

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

-

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

i. ECIP

c. Links to other projects:

-

2.2. Single Electronic Access Points

1. Objectives and description of the system

SEAPs will allow traders to lodge their electronic entry/exit summary declarations, summary and customs declarations via a single interface of their choice which connects their system with all Member States' customs systems. This data is automatically made available to any customs office responsible for the location at which goods have been, or are to be, presented, irrespective of the Member State concerned.

Such access points would either be provided by Member State's customs services or by private companies authorised by the Member State's customs service. The service of 'access point' providers is, at least at first, limited to 'passing on' the customs declaration and other required electronic attachments (e.g. electronic certificates) to the competent customs administration where the declaration will be accepted and further processed.

The single access point concept has no influence on the customs procedure as such. Processing of the declaration, any physical control of the goods, and payment of any debt and release of the goods will be carried out solely at the customs office to which the customs declaration is presented. There is no task sharing between the customs office at the place where the importer is established and the customs office at which the goods are presented at import.

Economic operators would only need one access point to lodge declarations, independently of the Member State of destination. From the perspective of the customs authorities there would be 'multiple access points' (= at least one per MS). With this approach, existing electronic connections between traders and customs administrations could be maintained and new electronic connections with the customs administration of their choice could be established. Specifications would be based on formats which are accepted by the MS.

2. Advantages

- for administrations: it is a tool of trade facilitation. Pressure for rapid and far-going harmonisation would be alleviated;
- for economic operators: instead of using different interfaces, economic operators operating in more than one MS will be able to lodge their declarations via the same interface (single access point), irrespective of the Member State where the goods are presented. In the long run, this will generate savings on software development and maintenance costs.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	T ₀	30 June 2006	Description of existing systems✓
2	+ 6 m	31 December 2006	User requirements prepared✓
3	+ 8 m	28 February 2007	Feasibility study approval✓
4	+ 56 m	15 February 2011	Functional specifications evaluation

Subsequent steps to be taken only if functional specifications positively evaluated

5	+ 67 m	31 January 2012	Technical specifications approval
6	+ 73 m	31 July 2012	National technical specifications available
7	+ 83 m	1 June 2013	Start of deployment in first MS
8	+ 95 m	1 June 2014	Full operation in all MS

4. Legal basis

Electronic Customs Decision

Art. 4 (4)a Systems, services and time limits

MCC

Art. 5 Electronic exchange of data

Art. 107 Obligation for traders to lodge an electronic customs declaration

5. Current key activities**IT**

Due consideration must be given to the consequences of providing SEAP-like functions within ICS, in the light of which SEAP deployment will subsequently need to be reconsidered.

6. Dependencies**a. Required for the project:**

-

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

-

c. Link to other projects:

i. AIS

ii. AES

iii. EORI

iv. ECIP

v. SW

3. CUSTOMS TOOLS

3.1. Customs Risk Management System

1. Objectives and description of the system

The objective of the Community Customs Risk Management System is to provide for the rapid, direct and secure exchange of risk information to support targeting of consignments for customs controls, and for the Commission to be able to disseminate information concerning Community-wide threats.

The first phase of the CRMS, the electronic Risk Information Form system, was launched in April 2005. The second phase involved an upgrade of the RIF system to include new user requirements arising from the practical experience gained by the users of the system. This second phase was launched in April 2007.

The next phase will involve the development of the Common Priority Control Areas (CPCA) module to permit the secure electronic transmission and management of Common Risk Criteria in accordance with the provisions of Articles 4h to 4j of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1875/2006.

The RIF and CPCA constitute together the CRMS.

2. Advantages

- for administrations: risk information can be communicated rapidly and directly to all customs offices to be incorporated into national and local risk profiles; customs administrations will benefit from the use of RIF/CRMS because controls can be better focused on higher risk consignments;
- for economic operators: the RIF/CRMS will not generate any additional costs for traders; compliant traders and society in general will benefit from the use of RIF/RMF because controls will be better targeted.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones for RIF module upgrade

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	/	April 2005	Implementation of electronic RIF system ✓
2	T ₀	April 2006	Definition of user requirements for upgrade of RIF ✓
3	+ 12 m	1 May 2007	Start of operation of upgraded RIF system ✓
4	+ 20 m	1 January 2008	Full operation of upgraded RIF in all MS ✓

Milestones for CRMS system – CPCA management

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	T ₀	31 December 2006	Agree definition and use of common risk criteria format with MS ✓
2	+ 6 m	30 June 2007	User requirements for management of CPCA ✓
3	+ 15 m	26 March 2008	Functional specifications for management of CPCA ✓
4	+ 21 m	1 October 2008	Technical specifications and development of system
5	+ 24 m	1 January 2009	MS must be capable of carrying out risk analysis electronically
6	+ 24 m	1 January 2009	Start of operation of CPCA module and continued operation of updated RIF module

4. Legal basis

Customs Code as amended by Reg. (EC) No 648/2005

Art. 13 (2)

Customs Code implementing provisions as amended by Reg. (EC) No 1875/2006

Art. 4f-4g

MCC

Art. 27 Post release controls

5. Current key activities

The RIF Network, Land Frontiers, RALFH, ODYSSUD and ICARUS contact groups and CPCA working group collectively contribute to the development of CRMS and have complementary objectives:

- to further improve a secure electronic system for disseminating and exchanging risk information to all customs control points of the Community; and
- to secure the electronic transmission and management of the common risk criteria and CPCA involving mandatory control action by MS.

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

- i. AEO

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

- i. Full functioning of AIS and AES
- ii. Full exploitation of NCTS

c. Link to other projects:

- i. ICS
- ii. ECS Phase 1+2
- iii. AEO
- iv. EORI
- v. SASP
- vi. SW

3.2. Integrated Tariff Environment

1. Introduction – overall objective

Improve interconnection between the already existing tariff-related IT systems in order to achieve:

- a. re-use of data and/or functionality from one system to another (e.g. descriptions of Combined Nomenclature (CN) codes, owned by the CN system, and re-used by the TARIC);
- b. harmonise the interfaces of the different inter-related tariff systems, with the Member States, without redundancy of data.

The concerned systems are CN, TARIC, European Binding Tariff Information (EBTI), Quota, Surveillance, the European Customs Inventory of Chemical Substances (ECICS), Suspensions.

The necessary steps to achieve the above-mentioned objectives are:

- a. alignment to ensure consistency of data codification between the systems (e.g. codify geographical areas in the same way in all systems);
- b. implementation of organisational procedures between the owners of the systems so that work and data flows run smoothly (ex: inform EBTI sector when closing a TARIC code).

2. Organisation of the project and overall timing

The ITE is not a system in itself, but a collection of data flows and procedures, most of which are to be implemented independently of each other as a continuing process.

Also, in order to minimise impact on resources and development costs, ITE developments are, when possible, merged with other development activities of the customs systems (ex: Quota 2, and TARIC3).

3.2.1. TARIC 3

1. Objectives

The main purposes of the TARIC 3 are:

- to provide to the Member States the Community data needed (interpretation, integration and codification) for automated customs clearance and
- to provide the business community with the up-to-date tariff and commercial legislation applicable at Community level, mainly via the DDS (see point 2.1.1.).

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: consistent application of tariff and commercial legislation

<p>throughout the customs union;</p> <p>- for the economic operators: TARIC provides immediate and up-to-date information on the Community tariff and commercial legislation.</p>
<p>3. Milestones and deadlines</p> <p>Suspensions – TARIC interface: up and running;</p> <p>CN – TARIC interface: autumn 2006;</p> <p>Integration of quota management data into the TARIC: end-2008;</p> <p>TARIC – EBTI interface: up and running;</p> <p>System to be operational in November 2009.</p>
<p>4. Legal basis</p> <p><i>Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 of 23 July 1987 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff (OJ L 256, 7.9.1987, p. 1); Articles 2, 5, 6.</i></p> <p><i>Electronic Customs Decision</i></p> <p>Art. 4.3 Systems, services and time limits</p>
<p>5. Current key activities</p> <p>IT</p> <p>Integration of quota management data into the TARIC</p>
<p>6. Dependencies</p> <p>N/A</p>

3.2.2. ECICS 2

<p>1. Objectives</p> <p>Ensure a consistent and harmonised classification of chemical products in the EU and help customs authorities to identify chemical products.</p> <p>With ECICS already functioning, the current initiative is an update of the system to improve its performance and add new tools according to the needs expressed by different types of users.</p>
<p>2. Advantages</p> <p>- for the administrations: ensure the correct and harmonised classification of chemical products; help to identify these products;</p> <p>- for the economic operators: avoid the request of individual BTIs ; to ascertain the correct classification of chemical products ensuring predictability of legal measures and customs</p>

duties applicable.
3. Milestones and deadlines <i>Milestones</i> The application will be deployed in several phases with the first one on 19 May 2008.
4. Legal basis <i>Council Regulation (EEC)No 2658/87 of 23 July 1987 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff (OJ L 256, 7.9.1987, p. 1); Article 12</i> <i>Electronic Customs Decision</i> Art. 4.3 Systems, services and time limits
5. Current key activities Deploying phase 1 of the application.
6. Dependencies N/A

3.2.3. Quota 2

1. Objectives The main purposes of Quota 2 is to ensure the management of "first come – first served" (FCFS) tariff quotas and to provide the business community with authoritative updates of the FCFS tariff quotas (via DDS – see point 2.1.1.).
2. Advantages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for the administrations: consistent application of tariff quotas; - for the economic operators: fair treatment of the imported goods and immediate up-to-date information concerning the situation of tariff quotas.
3. Milestones and deadlines <i>Milestones</i> System to be operational on 1 December 2008.
4. Legal basis Regulation 2454/1993 (Implementing provisions of the current customs code) Art 308a, b and c: Management of Tariff Quotas
5. Current key activities IT -Development and testing

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

- i. TARIC

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

-

c. Links to other projects:

-

3.2.4. Surveillance 2

1. Objectives

The main purpose of Surveillance 2 is to ensure the collection of data in the framework of import - export monitoring (surveillance).

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: automatic delivery of statistics required by several services of the Commission (DG OLAF, DG TRADE, DG AGRI, etc.).

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

System in operation since 1 January 2007.

4. Legal basis

Customs Code implementing provisions as amended by Reg. (EC) No 1875/2006

Art 308d: System of import surveillance

5. Current key activities

IT – in operation, corrective and evolutive maintenance

6. Dependencies

N/A

3.2.5. EBTI 3

1. Objectives

Ensure the correct issuing of all BTIs and to have a database of all applications and issued BTIs.

A further evolution could result from the Modernised Customs Code when the holder of a BTI will have the obligation to apply the BTI when declaring the covered goods.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: allow for faster and better comparisons of any request with existing BTIs avoiding all divergences; enable control of the use of BTIs;
- for the economic operators: provides legal certainty with regard to the tariff classification of goods for a specific period of time, and consequently certainty with regard to customs duties and any other customs charges dependant on classification. for which those goods may be liable.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

Work on an electronic system for submitting applications and issuing BTIs to be undertaken between mid-2008 and end 2010.

System to be operational by end 2010.

4. Legal basis

Current Customs Code and its Implementing provisions

Electronic Customs Decision

Art. 4.3 Systems, services and time limits

MCC

Art. 21: Special decisions

5. Current key activities

Legal basis - Customs Code Committee

Discussions on the Implementing Provisions to the MCC have begun in the Customs Code Committee.

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

- i. EBTI

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

-

c. Link to other projects:

- i. AES
- ii. AIS

4. ECONOMIC OPERATORS' SYSTEMS

4.1. Economic Operators' Registration and Identification System

1. Objectives

The objective of the Economic Operators' Registration and Identification System (EORI) is to establish a unique EU-wide system of identification for economic operators. The system will also allow the recognition of all the authorisations granted to the economic operators.

Thus, it was proposed to create an integrated Economic Operators' database covering all EORI and Authorised Economic Operator functions. This will offer maximum integration of the processes and avoid data duplication at the central level. It is the intention to have the same IT interface for Authorised Economic Operator, EORI and other future authorisation schemes such as SASP and REX.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: simplification and higher security of the customs operations, connection between a single traders' registration and identification system and other customs systems;
- for the economic operators: having a single registration number that can be used for all customs operations throughout the EU.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	T ₀	31 December 2006	User requirements prepared ✓
2	+ 8 m	11 September 2007	Feasibility study approval ✓
3	+ 22 m	24 November 2008	Functional specifications (EORI +AEO) approval
4	+ 23 m	22 December 2008	Technical specifications (EORI +AEO) approval
5	+ 26 m	31 March 2009	National technical specifications available
6	+ 26 m	7 April 2009	Start of deployment and conformance testing in first MS
7	+ 30 m	1 July 2009	Full operation in all MS

4. Legal basis

Electronic Customs Decision

Art. 4 (4)b Systems, services and time limits

MCC

Art. 10 Electronic systems

To be created:

Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Community Customs Code - TAXUD/1435/2007

5. Current key activities

Commission

Preparation of common technical specifications of EORI and AEO

Legal basis - Customs Code Committee

Approval of legal basis by amending the Community Customs Code' implementing provisions - TAXUD C1/1435/2007

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

-

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

- i. AEO full
- ii. AIS
- iii. AES
- iv. SASP
- v. REX

c. Link to other projects:

- i. NCTS
- ii. ICS
- iii. ECS
- iv. SEAP
- v. CRMS
- vi. SW
- vii. ECIP

4.2. Authorized Economic Operator

1. Objectives

To give effect to the concept of AEO as set out in Regulation (EC) No 648/2005. For planning purposes, the number of AEOs is estimated to be in the hundreds of thousands.

The system is made available centrally for updates and download by MS, and in order to provide access to the 'master file' (trusted source of info). MS are expected to keep some info in their national systems, such as the AEO Certificate numbers, for use in the declaration processing system – a 24 hour interval for updating the information from the master file is expected. No on-line queries will be launched for any verification of an AEO (to be done on national level). Connections and downloads from third countries with which mutual recognition exists might be available.

The AEO concept will be introduced in two steps. In the first stage, the basic functions will be provided while the second phase will extend the functionalities of the system to workflow and/or collaborative functions.

It was proposed to create an integrated Economic Operators' database covering all AEO and EORI functions. This will offer maximum integration of the processes and avoid data duplication at the central level. It is the intention to have the same IT interface for AEO, EORI and other future simplification such as the SASP system.

2. Organisation of the project and overall timing

In accordance with the legal basis of the project in the Customs Code implementing provisions to Reg. (EC) No 648/2005, the AEO concept is applicable as of 1 January 2008.

To accommodate the certification process as of that date, a phased approach has been agreed for establishing the IT system:

- a. AEO Phase 1 will provide basic functions as of 1 January 2008;
- b. AEO Full System will be extended to integrate workflow and/or collaborative functions as of 1 July 2009.

4.2.1. AEO Phase 1

1. Objectives

To provide an operational tool at the initial stage of the AEO introduction. AEO phase 1 system will primarily enable:

- central management of the AEO applications and certificates;
- downloading of the information on AEO into the national operational systems and
- publishing the list of AEOs who gave their prior agreement on DDS/Internet.

2. Advantages

- for administrations: have at their disposal reliable management support for the authorisation procedure in the first phase and a “master file” to control the identification of AEOs during the customs operations
- for economic operators: due recognition of their status throughout the EU and in those countries with which mutual recognition has been agreed.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	/	June 2005	Project group on AEO introducing the concept in the EC Regulation 648/2005 ✓
2	/	July 2006	Pilot action on AEO to support the introduction of the concept ✓
3	T ₀	8 November 2006	User requirements approval ✓
4	+ 7 m	23 May 2007	Functional specifications approval ✓
5	+ 8 m	15 June 2007	Technical specifications approval ✓
6	+ 14 m	1 January 2008	Start of operation of AEO Phase 1 IT system in all MS ✓

Further information

Working document TAXUD/1480/2005 (Report AEO project group)

Working document TAXUD/2005/1450 (Guidelines to the AEO concept)

AEO Pilot Report 24 August 2006

4. Legal basis

Amendment to the Customs Code, Regulation (EC) No 648/2005

Art. 5a: Legal framework and common criteria for AEO

Customs Code implementing provisions as amended by Reg. (EC) No 1875/2006

Art. 14a-b	General provisions
Art. 14c-f	Application for an AEO certificate
Art. 14 g-k	Conditions and criteria for granting the AEO certificate
Art. 14l-p	Procedure for issuing AEO Certificates
Art. 14q-v	Legal effects of the AEO certificates
Art. 14w-x	Information exchange

Electronic Customs Decision

Art. 4.1.c) Systems, services and time limits

MCC

Art. 10	Electronic systems
Art. 13	Application and Authorisation
Art. 14	Granting of status
Art. 15	Implementing measures

5. Current key activities

Commission

Coordination and monitoring of the operations of the system – production of periodic status reports.

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

-

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

-

c. Links to other projects:

- i. ICS
- ii. ECS
- iii. EORI
- iv. NCTS
- v. TARIC
- vi. ECIP
- vii. CRMS

4.2.2. AEO Full System

1. Objectives

AEO Full System builds on AEO Phase 1 and adds the workflow and/or collaborative functions.

2. Advantages

- for administrations: electronic consultation procedure for issuing AEO certificates;
- for economic operators: be sure that their status is recognised throughout the EU and in those countries with which mutual recognition has been agreed.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	/	June 2005	Project group on AEO introducing the concept in the EC Regulation 648/2005 ✓
2	/	July 2006	Pilot action on AEO to support the introduction of the concept ✓
3	T ₀	8 November 2006	User requirements approval ✓
4	+ 16 m	27 February 2008	Functional specifications approval ✓

5	+ 25 m	24 November 2008	Functional specifications (EORI update) approval
6	+ 26 m	22 December 2008	Technical specifications (AEO +EORI) approval
7	+ 32 m	1 July 2009	Start of operation of full AEO IT system in all MS
Further information Working document TAXUD/1480/2005 (Report AEO project group) Working document TAXUD/2005/1450 (Guidelines to the AEO concept) AEO Pilot Report 24 August 2006			
4. Legal basis <i>Amendment to the Customs Code, Regulation (EC) No 648/2005</i> Art. 5a: Legal framework and common criteria for AEO <i>Customs Code implementing provisions as amended by Reg. (EC) No 1875/2006</i> Art. 14a-b General provisions Art. 14c-f Application for an AEO certificate Art. 14 g-k Conditions and criteria for granting the AEO certificate Art. 14l-p Procedure for issuing AEO Certificates Art. 14q-v Legal effects of the AEO certificates Art. 14w-x Information exchange <i>Electronic Customs Decision</i> Art. 4.1.c) Systems, services and time limits <i>MCC</i> Art. 10 Electronic systems Art. 13 Application and Authorisation Art. 14 Granting of status Art. 15 Implementing measures			
5. Current key activities IT Prepare technical specifications.			
6. Dependencies a. Required for the project: i. EORI b. Project is a prerequisite for: i. Full functioning of AES, AIS and CRMS c. Links to other projects: i. ICS			

- ii. ECS
- iii. NCTS
- iv. TARIC
- v. ECIP
- vi. SASP
- vii. REX

4.3. Single Authorization for Simplified Procedures

1. Objectives

The objective is to create an IT system to manage the application and consultation procedures in respect of single authorisations for simplified procedures in cases where more than one customs administration is involved. The system will also enable decisions and information flow related to the management of:

- Single Authorisations for simplified procedures;
- Single Authorisations for customs procedures with economic impact and end-use, for which rules are laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93, Articles 292 and 500.

This should be introduced as an extension of the AEO Full system, given the high degree of common functionality.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: to have at their disposal a system capable of handling the application/authorisation process for Single Authorisations for simplified procedures, customs procedures with economic impact and end-use; to maintain a database for all Single Authorisations and similar authorisations.
- for the economic operators: the possibility of using the simplified procedure in more than one MS under only one authorisation issued by the customs authority of the MS where they are established; an easier and automated system to apply for and be granted Single Authorisations and similar authorisations.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	T ₀	11 March 2008	User requirements approval ✓
2	+ 16 m	11 July 2009	Functional specifications approval
3	+ 23 m	11 February 2010	Technical specifications approval
4	+ 30 m	1 September 2010	Start of deployment in first MS
5	+ 34 m	1 January 2011	Full operation in all MS

4. Legal basis

Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Community Customs Code (TAXUD/1409/2006) (to be published)

MCC

- Art. 5: Electronic exchange of information
- Art. 10: Electronic systems
- Art. 106: Centralised clearance
- Art. 107: Obligation for traders to lodge an electronic customs declaration
- Art. 136: Authorisation for special procedures

5. Current key activities

Drafting of the MCC implementing provisions.

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

- i. EORI

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

-

c. Link to other projects:

- i. AEO
- ii. CRMS
- iii. AIS
- iv. AES
- v. ECIP

4.4. Registered Exporters

1. Objectives and description of the system

The objective of the Registered Exporters system (REX) is to make available up-to-date and complete information on registered exporters established in third countries concerned with the export of goods to the EU enjoying preferential tariff rates based upon compliance with the applicable rules of origin. Registered Exporters are seen as known and trusted partners in a particular set of rules of origin. The system will also include exporters to be registered in the EU for the purpose of exporting to partner countries who enjoy preferential arrangements (based on reciprocal preferences under FTAs and/or cumulation of origin).

Only Registered Exporters will be entitled to make out statements on the origin of the goods they export under preferential arrangements. The Commission will set up a system to disseminate information concerning Registered Exporters, which will be available throughout the EU and in the partner countries for authorised users.

While the system at first will only cover some preferential arrangements (GSP and later on ACP-EPAs), it might be expected that a similar approach could be taken for all preferential arrangements, whereby all information would be available in a single system.

2. Advantages

- for administrations: availability of up to date and complete information, will be useful for input on risk analysis and will be a good basis for subsequent verifications of origin and fraud investigations;
- for economic operators: the REX system will help importers to identify reliable exporters which will increase the chances that preferential rates can be obtained without difficulties. Exporters will be able to state the origin without the need of requesting certificates for every consignment.

3. Milestones and deadlines – REX system:

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	T ₀	30 June 2006	Business process and user requirement study ✓
2	+ 9 m	31 March 2007	Feasibility study – internal COM approval✓
3	+29 m	30 November 2008	Business Process and user requirements update
4	+ 42 m	31 December 2009	Functional specifications
5	+ 48 m	30 June 2010	Technical specifications
5	+ 78 m	1 January 2013-2016	Deployment (data input) and start of operation of REX

4. Legal basis

To be created:

Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 2454/1993 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Community Customs Code

5. Current key activities

Legal basis

Adopt necessary legal basis for implementation by June 2009.

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

EORI

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

-

c. Link to other projects:

i. SW and (partially) AEO

ii. AIS

iii. AES

5.LONGER TERM PROJECTS

5.1. Single Window

1. Objectives

The objective of SW is to enable economic operators to lodge electronically, and once only, all the information required by customs and non-customs legislation for EU cross-border movements of goods. The initiative is currently presided over by DG TAXUD.

There will be (at least) one SW per Member State. These SW will be supported by the SEAP functions for lodging of declarations (if available). The handling of certificates and licences needed for the declaration will be based on the Community tariff and supplementary information specific to the MS concerned.

Certificates and licences from other MS will be transferred via the connection between the MS, the Commission and 3rd countries (SPEED platform), as well as between Commission systems, where required.

SW shall also make information available on how to request certificates and licences from competent bodies.

2. Advantages

- for the administrations: efficient risk management, increased streamlining, simplification and security of the customs operations, easier cooperation with other government authorities, even those in different member states;
- for the economic operators: streamlining the lodging of supporting documents resulting in time and money savings; ability to request licences and certificates from competent bodies.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	T ₀	31 December 2006	Identification of parties involved✓
2	+ 12 m	31 December 2007	Consider model, scope, initial set up of national single windows with parties involved ✓
3	+ 24 m	31 December 2008	Guidelines for the establishment of single window
4	+ 50 m	15 February 2011	Functional specifications evaluation

Subsequently, MS requested to endeavour to establish and make operational the Single Window (tentative timetable follows)

5	+ 66 m	30 June 2012	<i>Development lifecycle</i>
6	+ 66 m	1 July 2012	<i>Start of deployment in first MS</i>
7	+ 90 m	1 July 2014	<i>Full operation in all MS</i>
4. Legal basis <i>Electronic Customs Decision</i> Art 4.4.c) Systems, services and time limits <i>MCC</i> Art. 5 and 28 <i>To be created:</i> <i>Implementing provisions to Modernised Customs Code</i>			
5. Current and planned key activities Commission in partnership with MS Definition of the scope, identification of a suitable model, decision on the level of coordination, preparation of guidelines on the scoped establishment of a single window - identification of processes/authorities suitable for connection in the first step.			
6. Dependencies a. Required for the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. AES ii. AIS b. Project is a prerequisite for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - c. Link to other projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. CRMS ii. ECIP iii. SEAP iv. EORI v. REX 			

6. AUTOMATED INFORMATION EXCHANGE WITH 3rd COUNTRIES

6.1. Single Portal for Entry or Exit of Data (SPEED)

1. Objectives and description of the system

To provide for a technical solution which will enable automated data exchange between MS electronic customs systems and third countries on the basis of EU bilateral or multilateral agreements. This planned automated exchange of information is envisaged only with countries outside the EU, such as e.g. China, Russian Federation and USA.

However, countries which are not an EU MS but are participating in one or more electronic customs systems, such as EFTA countries, countries which have a customs union with the EU and candidate countries, will continue to exchange information via their own CCN/CSI gateway.

The exchange of the information will be organised via a secured portal connected to the secured network CCN/CSI.

Data requirements, formats and protocols of the envisaged data exchanges will be agreed to be as far as possible compatible with the existing EU customs IT systems such as NCTS, ICS and ECS.

The first implementation of the envisaged automated information exchange with third countries is to be started as a pilot project with volunteering EU MS and third countries – see section 6.1.

2. Advantages

- for national administrations: provision and reception of information based upon international agreements signed by the EU and individual third countries will be done via a single EU interface, i.e. MS will not have to create their own systems for data exchange with third countries.
- for economic operators: facilitation of logistic flows and reduced need for the re-submission of the same data.

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	T ₀	May - June 2007	Initial internal study by DG TAXUD ✓
Further time plan to be proposed after completion of the above mentioned study			

4. Legal basis

Specific legal basis to be agreed for individual projects using the secured portal.

5. Current key activities

Legal basis and IT

- internal study to check feasibility and possible time plan;
- ongoing negotiations with Russia and China on the scope of the pilot projects and the technical and legal details;
- first meeting scheduled with US customs to provide mutual information on customs related IT systems.

6. Dependencies

a. Required for the project:

- i. CCN/CSI

b. Project is a prerequisite for:

-

c. Link to other projects:

- i. ECS
- ii. ICS
- iii. NCTS

6.2. EU-Russia exchange of TIR movement data (Pilot project)

1. Objectives

Exchange TIR movement data with Russia via the secured portal connected to CCN/CSI - SPEED.

2. Advantages

- See section 6.1

3. Milestones and deadlines

Milestones

	Relative dates	Estimated dates	
1	T ₀	22 November 2007	Feasibility study ✓
2	+ 2 m	22 January 2008	User requirements ✓
3	+ 5 m	30 April 2008	Functional and technical specifications ✓

4	+ 13 m	1 January 2009	Exchange operational
4. Legal basis			
<i>Art. 78 (2) EU – Russia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement</i>			
5. Current and planned key activities			
Creation of technical specifications, discussions with Russia			
6. Dependencies			
a. Required for the project:			
i. SPEED			
b. Project is a prerequisite for:			
-			
c. Link to other projects:			
-			