HM Revenue & Customs

Export Control System (ECS)
EU Upgrade 1 October 2017

Customs Information Paper 14 (2017)	
Who should read:	All those involved in making declarations for the export of goods.
What is it about:	ECS RFC29 EU upgrade 2017
When effective:	01/10/2017
Extant until/ Expires	Until further notice

1. Introduction.

The Export Control System RFC29 upgrade is scheduled for implementation to the live system on the 1 October 2017.

This Customs Information Paper has been issued to inform all those involved in submitting export declarations through CHIEF (Customs Handling of Import and Export Freight) And includes:
The changes that will impact declarants;
The downtime required, and where more detailed information can be found if required.

2. Technical Specification.

Export declarations are submitted via the CHIEF system via NES (the National Export System). The CHIEF Technical Interface Specification can be found by following this link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/chief-user-guides-and-technical-specifications

3. ECS Changes.

3.1
Rule R010 – Consignor/Exporter
This is a wording change to avoid ambiguity.

Definition: Consignor can be declared at header or goods item level, but not both. If consignor is declared at item level it cannot be the same for all items.

The actual wording of this rule will be.

IF '(Consignor) Trader' is used
THEN 'Goods Item. (Consignor) Trader' cannot be used (for any GOODS ITEMS)
ELSE (('Goods Item. (Consignor) Trader = 'O')
AND (the same '(Consignor) Trader' cannot be used for all GOODS ITEMS)).

3.2

Rule R011 – Consignee

This is a wording change to avoid ambiguity.

Definition: Consignee can be declared at header or goods item level, but not both. If consignee is declared at item level it cannot be the same for all items.

The actual wording of this rule will be:

IF '(Consignee) Trader' is used

THEN 'Goods Item. (Consignee) Trader' cannot be used (for any GOODS ITEMS)

ELSE (('Goods Item. (Consignee) Trader = 'O') unless other Rules & Conditions apply.

AND (the same '(Consignee) Trader' cannot be used for all GOODS ITEMS)).

3.3

Change to BOX 1, subtype 1 (Declaration Type) on export declarations submitted for goods moving to the following destinations:

Andorra (AD)

San Marino (SM)

Island of Heligoland (DE)

Livigno (IT)

Stores and Provisions (QQ)

Stores and Provisions within the framework of intra-EU trade (QR)

Countries and territories not specified within the framework of intra-EU trade (QV)

The Declaration Type and Country of Destination codes specified in the table below should be used from 1 October 2017, until then the current codes remain valid.

Country of Destination Code (Box 17a)	Declaration type (Box 1)
An EU member state or Stores and provisions (QQ) Stores and provisions within the framework of intra-EU trade (QR) Countries and territories not specified within the framework of intra-EU trade (QV)	CO
A European Free Trade Association (EFTA) or Common Transit Country except Andorra (AD) San Marino (SM)	EU
A third country or Andorra (AD) San Marino (SM) Island of Heligoland (DE) Livigno (IT) except Stores and provisions (QQ) Stores and provisions within the framework of intra-EU trade (QR) Countries and territories not specified within the framework of intra-EU trade (QV)	EX

The actual wording of this technical rule (TR9121) will be:

IF 'HEADER. Type of Declaration' = 'CO',
THEN the value must be in {CL010, 'QQ', 'QR', 'QV'},
ELSE
IF 'HEADER. Type of Declaration' = 'EU',
THEN CL063 applies except 'AD' and 'SM',
ELSE [i.e. 'HEADER. Type of Declaration' = 'EX'],
The value must be in {(CL140 except 'QQ', 'QR', 'QV'}), 'AD', 'SM', 'DE', 'IT'}.

Full details of this change can be found in the Customs Information Paper 8(2017) that was published on 8 May 2017.

[Customs Information Paper 8(2017)](#)

4. ECS Live Downtime – RFC29.

It will be necessary for HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) to take the ECS down in order to apply the upgrade. This will not affect CHIEF, but any indirect export declarations submitted during the ECS downtime will queue.

The downtime for ECS is currently scheduled to commence at 12:00 noon on Saturday 30 September 2017 and end at 01:00 on Sunday 1 October 2017.

However, systems may be restored earlier. Further information relating to the downtime will be published on the service availability page.

5. Contacts.

If you require further information regarding CHIEF via NES (the National Export System) please email export.enquiries@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

For further information regarding export policy please email export.customspolicy@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

Issued on 14 July 2017 by Customer Strategy and Tax Design, Customs Directorate, HMRC.

HMRC is changing how information is issued to customers. Sign up to receive digital alerts.

Your Charter explains what you can expect from us and what we expect from you.
For more information go to: Your Charter