HM Revenue & Customs

New Computerised Transit System (NCTS)
EU Upgrade 1 October 2017

Customs Information Paper 16 (2017)	
Who should read:	All those involved in making declarations for the Union/Common Transit of goods.
What is it about:	NCTS RFC29 EU upgrade 2017
When effective:	01/10/2017
Extant until/ Expires	Until further notice

1. Introduction.

The New Computerised Transit 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 NCTS users of:
The changes that will impact declarants.
The downtime required and where more detailed information can be found if required.

2. Technical Specification.

Community / Common transit declarations are submitted via the NCTS system. The Technical Interface Specification (TIS) and TIS Appendices can be found by following this link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/new-computerised-transit-system-technical-specifications

3. NCTS 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 Condition C140
Currently, Country of Destination code is mandatory at header level if only one country of destination is declared and cannot be input at item level. If more than one country of destination is applicable then header level cannot be used and item level is mandatory.

This will change to: Country of Destination code can be declared at header or goods item level, but not both. If Country of Destination code is declared at goods item level it cannot be the same for all goods items.

The actual wording of this condition will be:

IF 'HEADER. Country of destination code' is used,
THEN 'GOODS ITEM. Country of destination code' cannot be used (for any GOODS ITEMS)
ELSE (('GOODS ITEM. Country of destination code' = 'R' (for all GOODS ITEMS))
AND (the same 'Country of destination code' cannot be used for all GOODS ITEMS)).

3.4 Condition C001

Currently, if Country of Destination code [at header level] is one of the contracting parties, or AD (Andorra) or SM (San Marino), completion of Box 8 (Consignee) is mandatory [at header level].

This will change to, if Country of Destination code is in {CL009}, completion of Box 8 (Consignee) is mandatory [at header level].

The actual wording of this condition will be:

IF 'HEADER. Country of destination code' in {CL009},
THEN ('(CONSIGNEE) TRADER' = 'R'
OR 'GOODS ITEM. (CONSIGNEE) TRADER' = 'R' for all GOODS ITEMS)
ELSE ('(CONSIGNEE) TRADER'='O' AND 'GOODS ITEM.(CONSIGNEE) TRADER' = 'O',
Unless other Rules & Conditions apply).

N.B CL009 is a list of the Common Transit Country codes.

3.5 Condition C002

Currently, if Country of Destination code [at goods item level] is one of the contracting parties, or AD or SM, completion of Box 8 (Consignee) is mandatory [at header level].

This will change to, if Country of Destination code [at goods item level] is in {CL009}, completion of Box 8 (Consignee) is mandatory [at goods item level].

The actual wording of this condition will be:

IF 'GOODS ITEM. Country of destination code' in {CL009},
THEN ('(CONSIGNEE) TRADER' = 'R'
OR 'GOODS ITEM. (CONSIGNEE) TRADER' = 'R' for this GOODS ITEM)
ELSE 'GOODS ITEM. (CONSIGNEE) TRADER' = 'O' for this GOODS ITEM, unless other Rules & Conditions apply).

N.B. CL009 is a list of the Common Transit Country codes.

3.6 Condition C030

This change makes completion of 'Customs Office of Transit' mandatory for transit declaration types T2 and T-.

The actual wording of this condition will be:

IF 'HEADER. Type of declaration' = 'TIR',
THEN '(TRANSIT) CUSTOMS OFFICE' cannot be used,
ELSE
IF (Country Code of '(DEPARTURE) CUSTOMS OFFICE. Reference Number' in {CL063}
OR Country Code of '(DESTINATION) CUSTOMS OFFICE. Reference Number' in {CL063}
OR 'HEADER. Type of declaration' in {'T2', 'T-'}),
THEN '(TRANSIT) CUSTOMS OFFICE' = 'R',
ELSE '(TRANSIT) CUSTOMS OFFICE' = 'O'.

N.B. CL063 is a list of the Common Transit countries outside of the European Union (EU).

3.7

The TIR Carnet (reference number) field is increasing from 10 characters to 11.

TIR Carnet numbers of 10 digits are reaching their maximum and at some point in the near future new TIR Carnet numbers will be 11 digits long.

This change is to ensure that the system will accept 11 digit numbers.

If you have a 10 digit reference number please continue to enter only 10 characters.

4. NCTS Live Downtime – RFC29.

It will be necessary for HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) to take the NCTS down in order to apply the upgrade. This will affect those who submit declarations using all routes into NCTS (E-mail, XML and WEB routes).

The downtime for NCTS 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.

Permission is granted to use the business continuity (paper fallback – transit declarations) procedure during this time. Further information on the business continuity (paper fallback) procedure can be found in section 3.8 of the Transit Manual Supplement:

[Transit Manual Supplement](#)

5. Contacts.

If you require further information regarding NCTS related queries please email
ncts.helpdesk@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

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

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