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INFORMATION SHEET ON I.T. PROJECTS

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PROJECT EMCS (Excise Movement Control System)	
SUMMARY The EMCS Computerisation Project (ECP) aims to set up the Excise Movement and Control System (EMCS), which is an integrated computer system concerning the movement and control of the products subject to excise duties under suspension arrangement of excise duties.	
LEGAL BASIS General	The decision 1152/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, which defines and launches the project and gives to the Commission a budget of 35 M€, was adopted on 16.06.2003 and published in the Official Journal on 01/07/2003 (OJ L162).
Mandatory use of I.T.	
DESCRIPTION The project consists in replacing the current system based on the circulation of the paper version of the AAD (Administrative Accompanying Document) by an electronic system relying on a secure workflow of electronic messages between all parties involved. The main users of the system will be the Economic Operators. Three groups of functionality to be developed are explained in the feasibility study: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the first group concerns the prerequisites for the electronic circuit of the AAD (Accompanying Administrative Document) i.e. all the reference elements which affect the exchange of information between Administrations, and in particular SEED;• the second group comprises all the specifications pertaining to all the aspects of the electronic circuit of the AAD, from its submission to its discharge, including the changes occurring during its journey;• the third group includes the remaining functionality, such as the use of risk evaluation and the mutual assistance functions.	
STATUS The EMCS Computerisation Project will specify, deploy, and support the operation of the EMCS across all Member States. The EMCS will be introduced in "1+3" phases from 2002 to 2009 (Phase 0 and Phases 1, 2, 3). Phase 0 encompasses the operational support and maintenance of the existing systems (SEED, MVS, and EWSE) used in the excise field, waiting for the operation of EMCS. Phase 1 is the system specification phase. The main component of this phase is the preparation of the system specifications. Phase 2 and 3 are both development and implementation phases. - In 2005, EMCS phase 0 (2004-2008) was devoted to the maintenance, enhancement and support of the current Excise applications (SEED, MVS, EWSE). The SEED v.0 system specifications have been approved and development has been completed at the end of 2005. For EWSE and MVS the system specifications for the development of new electronic forms have been approved, development has been completed and conformance tests were due to start at the end of 2005. - In 2005, EMCS phase 1 was devoted to the continuation of drafting of the system specifications accompanied by development of prototypes and most importantly with the review of the Functional Excise System Specification with the Member States. In parallel, the elaboration of the technical system specification was under way, with the Technical Excise System Specification (TESS), the Acceptance and Certification Specification (ACS) and the Central Operation Specification (COS) submitted for review by the Commission. The ACS and COS were approved by the Commission and will be next reviewed by Member States.	

- Due to the delays with the elaboration and review of the FESS, there is a delay of approximately 16 months for EMCS phases 2 and 3. Nevertheless, in 2005 the definition of scope of Phase 2 and the technical design of the Phase 2 functions have been launched.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- In 2006, EMCS phase 0 (2004-2008) will be devoted to the conformance testing and entry into operation of SEED v.0, which is a major milestone in the activities of Phase 0. Similarly, for EWSE and MVS, conformance tests will be completed and the new electronic forms will enter operation in the framework of the maintenance, enhancement and support of the current Excise applications (SEED, MVS, EWSE) until the entry into operation of the related EMCS module.

- In 2006, all system specifications (EMCS Phase 1) will have to be submitted for review to the Member States and by the end of 2006 for acceptance by the Excise Committee. This will enable both the Commission and the Member States to enter the development phase (Phase 2) of EMCS in 2007.

- 2006 will be devoted to the completion of the definition of scope of Phase 2 and the technical design of the Phase 2 functions. **During 2007**, the Member States and the Commission will develop their respective applications to implement Phase 2 functions. The Commission will set up the necessary conformance test services to test the compliance of the Member States systems with the technical design specifications. A first limited group of Member States will perform the conformance tests for Phase 2 and eventually enter in operation. All Member States will then need to join the Phase 2 operation **as of mid 2008 until mid 2009**, after having successfully passed the conformance tests.

- EMCS phase 3 will have to start after the completion of Phase 2, i.e. **after mid 2009** with the scope of Phase 3 and the design of Phase 3 functions as per scope indication. The development and conformance tests will then follow with the Member States operating according to Phase 2 functions progressively upgrading their operation to Phase 3.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Comments:

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