



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
TAXATION AND CUSTOMS UNION
Coordination and programmes
Information technology

INFORMATION SHEET ON I.T. PROJECTS

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PROJECT DDS (Data Dissemination System)	
SUMMARY Public web site for customs and VAT information. The system covers information coming from TARIC, TQS, EBTI, ECICS, Suspensions, Transit Customs Offices and the Transit Movement follow-up. For VAT information the system acts as a switch to the various national VIES systems in a transparent way.	
LEGAL BASIS	
General	<i>see the respective projects for the contents</i>
Mandatory use of I.T.	None
DESCRIPTION	
<u>Contents:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- TARIC: the nomenclature in all Community languages and all Community measures relating to imports and exports- Quota: the balances of each tariff quota applicable in the present year and from as far as 2003. Furthermore, other relevant information such as the date when a particular tariff quota is exhausted will be displayed.- Surveillance: the total import of each surveillance represented by his order number from 2003. Furthermore, other relevant information such as the date when a ceiling is reached will be displayed.- EBTI: all non-confidential European Binding Tariff Information (with their images) is available- ECICS: some 35 400 chemical names in all Community languages along with their tariff classification in the Combined Nomenclature- Suspensions: information on autonomous tariff suspensions, in preparation or in force- Transit Customs Offices Information concerning the Customs Offices involved in Transit: name, address, phone number, opening hours, holidays, etc. Download facility of all information.- Transit Movements Follow-up Allows to know the status of a Transit movement based on a Movement Reference Number (MRN)- VIES: allows to check the validity of a VAT number- SEED : System for Exchange of Excise Data online verification. It provides a service to verify an Excise Number. <u>Process:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- TARIC, Quota, Surveillance and EBTI data are copied on a daily basis from the production server- ECICS is updated on an annual basis- Suspensions information is updated upon user request- The Transit Customs Offices data is updated upon user request- The Transit Movements Follow-up data is updated every 6 hours with information coming from another computer system (CS/MIS)- VIES data are managed by the Member States- SEED data are updated on a daily basis from the SEED application export- Available to the public on the Europa server and supporting all languages (including the new languages) <u>Access</u> : http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/dds/en/home.htm	
STATUS <ul style="list-style-type: none">- In production since September 2000.- Due to enlargement in May 2004, the number of consultations doubled compared to 2003. There has been a migration to a new platform (June 2004) and an integration of all the new languages.- Due to a second enlargement since his existence, DDS is now available in BG and RO	

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- enhancements for 2007:
 - integration of quota data managed by DG AGRI,
 - addition of Export Movements Follow-up,
 - modification of imports for ECICS data following new implementation of ECICS application
- new DDS2 system: once the public survey completed, a new development lifecycle will start to build a new system (2007-2008)

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Technical infrastructure:

- Sun Solaris OS
- Oracle 9 as database system, UTF8 as character encoding scheme
- Tuxedo 8.1
- Cgi scripts
- Web Server 4.1 (Netscape - iPlanet)
- Web browser

Comments:

- Tool to manage the translations (titles, labels, help text, etc.) available for the users
- Statistical module available for the users
- The system is running on a server at the Data Centre
- The CCN/CSI infrastructure is used to feed the DDS system from the various production systems