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DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
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Information technology

INFORMATION SHEET ON I.T. PROJECTS

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PROJECT RIF (Risk Information Form)	
SUMMARY The RIF is an essential element in the strategic development and implementation of a standard Risk Management Framework in the customs services of the European Union.	
LEGAL BASIS	
General	Customs 2007 Decision 253/2003/EC of 11 th February 2003, Article 5 paragraph 2 + amendments to the Community Customs Code (Regulation (EC) No 648/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 April 2005) + Commission Regulation (EC) No 1875/2006 of 18 December 2006.
Mandatory use of I.T.	The above-mentioned documents state that Member States and the Commission are to set up co-ordinated and inter-linked automated support systems for the implementation of risk management in the customs domain.
DESCRIPTION	
<u>Contents:</u> Simple and easy to use forms dealing with routine control concerns must be exchanged rapidly between National Risk Analysis Centres (NRACs - including DG TAXUD) and Customs Offices (COs, i.e. ports, airports...) in the Member States. A RIF should raise the awareness of the concerned parties with regard to goods which could pose a threat to health or safety of citizens and other potential irregularities (e.g. false declaration, counterfeit goods). Beside the RIF, a Feedback function must be available in order to evaluate the action taken by either a CO or a NRAC on receipt of a RIF. Therefore, an efficient, fast and simple exchange system for risk information was developed.	
<u>Process:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Any authorised person in a NRAC or in a CO must be able to create RIFs and Feedbacks.- The data are registered in a central system.- It's possible for all addressees of RIFs/Feedbacks to be notified by the central system that there is information awaiting their attention.- Different types of reports is generated by the system.	
STATUS - Operational since April 2005 + new major functional release about to be deployed.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES - Further batch of change requests (communication function/collaborative environment, free text formatting, identification of updates, improvement of the function to attach a document) to be implemented by the end of 2007/beginning of 2008.	

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Technical infrastructure:

- Sun Solaris OS 2.9
- Oracle RDBMS v9.2.0.4 database system, UTF-8 as character encoding scheme
- BEA Weblogic v8.1 SP3
- Internet browser
- CCN/CSI network between the Commission and the National Administrations

Comments:

- No need for an automatic link with Member States' risk analysis systems has been identified for the moment.
- A secure access via Internet to the application is possible.
- Licenses to deploy DeltaXML v4.1 in various environments will be needed in order to implement the identification of updates.