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DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
TAXATION AND CUSTOMS UNION
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Information technology

INFORMATION SHEET ON I.T. PROJECTS

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PROJECT NCTS (NEW COMPUTERISED TRANSIT SYSTEM)	
SUMMARY NCTS is based on the electronic exchange of the transit data between the National Customs Administrations in parallel and in anticipation of the movement of the goods. NCTS provides a fully computerised Customs regime for goods which enter into the Common Transit. Its goal consists in strengthening and modernising the means of Customs control in the context of the Single Market and the EFTA countries, and in reducing the possibilities for fraudulent operation inherent in the former paper-based system. The NCTS optimises the management of the Transit System by using modern technology.	
LEGAL BASIS	
General	D.A.C. (R. 2454/93), as last amended by Reg. (EC) 883/2005 (OJ L 148, 11.6.2005, p. 5) Convention Common Transit (Reform) as last amended by Decision 6/2005 (OJ L 324, 10.12.2005, p. 96) Legal base for NCTS phase 3 [EC Regulation No. 993/2001 (.O.J. L 141, 28 May 2001) & Decision 1/2001, EC-EFTA Joint Committee – (O.J. L 165, 21 June 2001)] Legal base for the usage of the CCN/CSI IT network (Decision 2/99, EC-EFTA Joint Committee on Common Transit, 30.03.1999 (O.J. L 119, 07.05.1999)]
Mandatory use of I.T.	Yes
DESCRIPTION	
<p>The Transit Computerised Project (TCP) sets up the following instruments to support the NCTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ the legal base, valid in the EU and in the EFTA countries;▪ the telecommunication network between all the Customs administrations involved;▪ the Central Databases to distribute the common information to all National Administrations and to test the national systems;▪ a set of information technology applications to assist the national applications to join NCTS ;▪ a Central Help Desk (CHD) and a Technical Centre (TC) to monitor and to support the operation of the NCTS. <p>Central Databases and services have been put in place to allow the project to commence (phase 3.1) as planned on 03.12.2001 with an operational system in six (6) countries. Geographic expansion to include all EU15 and EFTA Customs Offices was achieved by 01.07.2003. Since 01.05.2004, all 25 EU countries and EFTA countries are connected to NCTS. Phase 3.2 started on 01.07.2004 and has been completed in January 2006.</p> <p>The Customs Office List (COL) is maintained by National Administrations via the Central Services/Reference Database (CS/RD) and has been made available on the public Europa website. A download facility has been provided in 2003. The Management Information System (MIS) is available for consultation on the public Europa website since March 2004.</p> <p>A Centrally Developed Transit Application-suite (CDTA) has been developed to support NCTS. It consists of six applications, namely Minimal Common Core (MCC), EDI/CSI Node (ECN), Transit Test Application (TTA), Standard Transit Test Application (STTA), CS/RD and Central Services/Management Information System (CS/MIS). The Statistics Management Analysis Reporting Tool (SMART) – a statistical reporting tool application– was included in the CDTA suite in 2005.</p> <p>In addition to the CDTA suite, Web2000 is a web application that facilitates the communication and the information sharing among National Administrations, contractors and the Commission. Via Web2000, National Administrations can access, view and follow-up their calls, access the CD/RD and CS/MIS applications, access the project baseline and download documents or application releases.</p>	
STATUS - As of January 2006, all National Administrations have entered phase 3.2.2 operations.	

- In January 2006 Romania started phase 3.2.2 operations and has joined community transit since accession to the EU; Bulgaria joined NCTS upon accession 01 January 2007.
- CDTA applications are all running on the New Technological Platform (NTP) since January 2005.
- The number of international movements (IE01 sent) recorded for NCTS till end of December 2006 was more than 22 Millions.
- As of January 2007 Availability and Continuity Management specifications are applicable.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

From development point of view, some major activities are foreseen in 2007: implementation of Security Amendment, reform of the enquiry procedure, support of TIR application.

The delivery of MCC 6.0.0 and ECN 6.0.0 implementing new format converter software is expected by end of March 2007.

Andorra and San Marino are planning to connect to NCTS.

The Commission has started working (together with the involved countries) on the Sunset of the CDTA Nationally Operated applications (MCC and ECN). The end of Commission support is set to mid 2008.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Technical infrastructure:

Comments: