

Customs Information Paper 39 (2015): implementation of the Union Customs Code

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1.The Union Customs Code

The Union Customs Code (UCC) Regulation No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, was agreed and adopted by co-decision in October 2013 and applies from 1 May 2016.

2.Information mailshot for businesses holding a customs authorisation or approval

Businesses engaged in international trade need to be aware of forthcoming changes to import, export and storage procedures following the introduction of the UCC across the EU on 1 May 2016. A mailshot will be issued to all businesses holding a customs authorisation or approval to provide general information regarding the main impacts of the UCC. The mailshot is included within this Customs Information Paper (CIP).

This CIP is being issued to share the mailshot information more widely with businesses who do not currently hold any customs authorisation or approval.

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) is working on changes to customs operational procedures and further, regime specific detail to help you prepare, this will be published on GOV.UK and distributed by HMRC toward the end of 2015.

Please do not contact HMRC directly about the changes, HMRC will be issuing further information in due course.

3.Mailshot

Why are we writing to you?

As a business engaged in international trade, you need to be aware of forthcoming changes to import, export and storage procedures following the introduction of the UCC across the EU on 1 May 2016. This mailshot is designed to provide you with general information regarding the main impacts of the UCC, to complement information published on the [GOV.UK website](#).

Further regime specific detail to help you prepare, will be published on GOV.UK and distributed by HMRC toward the end of 2015. Please do not contact HMRC directly about the changes, HMRC will be writing to you with further information in due course.

What is the UCC?

The UCC (Regulation No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council) was agreed and adopted by co-decision in October 2013 and applies from 1 May 2016.

It sets down, at high level, the procedures and rules relating to importing, exporting, and the storing or processing of goods prior to payment of customs charges. It includes rules regarding the customs value, origin and trade guarantees for payment of charges, how the member states deal with applications for decisions (including the time limits) and communicate with each other or trade.

The UCC also replaces the existing customs rules. These currently applicable rules are contained in the Community Customs Code (Regulation 2913/92).

The underlying principles of the UCC are:

- that all communication should be electronic (exceptions are permissible)
- to simplify and modernise the procedures

On 28 July 2015, the Commission formally adopted the text of the Delegated Act supplementing the UCC. The EU Council and European Parliament now have a period of 2 months (commencing on 20 August) to consider the text and decide whether to object.

Summary of the main changes

This mailshot summarises the main changes the UCC will have on businesses involved in international trade, including the impacts on any authorisations or approvals held. These changes are detailed in:

- [Annex A: changes taking effect from 1 May 2016](#)
- [Annex B: changes only taking effect once a full UCC authorisation is held](#)

Some of the main changes from 1 May 2016 are:

- mandatory guarantees for most special procedures and Temporary Storage (TS) - this only applies to new authorisations
- the ability to make some movements under TS rather than national transit or Electronic Transit System - formerly New Computerised Transit System
- the removal of the earlier sales provisions relating to valuation - but there are some [transitional arrangements](#)
- all communications between customs authorities and economic operators must be electronic

In addition, some procedures and reliefs will cease or change on 30 April 2016, these are detailed below.

Procedures and reliefs ending on 30 April 2016

Currently, a €10 waiver of Customs Duty for free circulation customs declarations applies. Under UCC, where Customs Duty is payable, no de-minimis exemption will apply. This does not affect any Community System of Duty Reliefs that you may be eligible for.

Goods being declared to Onward Supply Relief (OSR) (customs procedure code 42 series) may only be entered using a full customs declaration or the Simplified Declaration Procedure (SDP).

INF documents may no longer be used with Entry in Declarant's Records (EIDR). This was previously allowed under Local Clearance Procedure (LCP).

No new imports may be made to these customs procedures after 30 April 2016:

- Inward Processing Drawback (IP(D))
- Processing under Customs Control (PCC)
- type D customs warehousing
- Low Value Bulking Imports (LVBI)

IP(D) and LVBI authorisations will cease to be valid and these authorisations may no longer be used to import goods regardless of any expiry dates shown on your authorisations.

LVBI applications will not be accepted for processing after 1 December 2015. Businesses wishing to use LVBI after 30 April 2016 will require a SDP authorisation for low value imports.

PCC authorisation holders will be issued with an Inward Processing suspension (IP) authorisation number which must be used after 30 April 2016 for any new importations. The customs debt rules in article 85 of the UCC must be used for the new importations.

Type D customs warehousing authorisation holders will be issued with an amended authorisation with a prefix of:

- C (if it is currently only a type D authorisation)
- E (if it is currently a type E warehouse with type D rules of assessment)

which must be used for all entries to the customs warehouse made after 1 May 2016 and the normal customs debt rules of assessment will apply.

New facilitations under the UCC

The UCC has introduced a number of new facilitations which businesses may wish to apply for. If businesses wish to take advantage of these, a new UCC authorisation will be required.

Businesses should consider the advantages of these new facilitations balanced against the need to comply with the new UCC terms and conditions, including the provision of mandatory guarantees.

The new facilitations available are:

- SDP with low value imports (closest replacement for LVBI)
- SDP removals from customs warehousing for OSR goods
- retail sales in a customs warehouse
- IP with no intention to export:
 - TS movements between member states, this requires Economic Operator Customs Simplifications (AEOC)
 - TS movements between inland TS premises
 - waivers from the requirement to notify releases to a customs procedure using EIDR (previously LCP), this requires AEOC
- reduction in the Customs Duty guarantee for a Duty Deferment account, this requires AEOC
- transit declarations with a reduced data set - to be introduced at a later date

Economic Operator Registration and Identification

It is a requirement for all economic operators (for example businesses) involved in international trade to be registered and to have an Economic Operator Registration and Identification (EORI) number.

You will need to have an EORI number in order to apply for any customs authorisations, approvals or decisions.

Continued use of customs authorisations and approvals with no end date (open ended)

Approved exporters (preference) authorisations will continue without change under the UCC. There is no requirement for businesses to reapply or be reassessed.

Authorisations and approvals granted before 30 April 2016 which do not have an end date (open ended) may continue to be used from 1 May 2016.

Your supervising office will contact you before 30 April 2019 to assess your ability to meet the new terms and conditions required under the UCC.

They will also discuss whether your business will need to provide a guarantee in order to continue operating the regime or procedure.

Authorisations with no end date may include:

- AEOC
- Authorised Economic Operator Safety and Security (AEOS)
- Customs Freight Simplified Procedures (CFSP)
- customs warehousing (no new imports may be made to type D arrangements, see [Note 1](#))
- transit simplifications (including transit guarantees)
- use of seals of a special type (transit): these authorisations may only be used until the seal stocks have run out
- authorised banana weighers
- deferment accounts
- Simplified Import VAT Accounting (SIVA)
- authorised consignor for community status authorisations
- regular shipping service
- export simplifications such as LCP and SDP
- some TS approvals, operators should check their current approvals to see if an end date is quoted

Note 1

Type D customs warehousing authorisation holders will be issued with an amended authorisation with a prefix of:

- C (if it is currently only a type D authorisation)
- E (if it is currently a type E warehouse with type D rules of assessment) - which must be used for all entries to the customs warehouse made after 1 May 2016 and the normal customs debt rules of assessment will apply

Continued use of customs authorisations and approvals with a limited period of validity (expiry dates)

You may continue to use these authorisations and approvals until their expiry date or 30 April 2019, whichever is earliest.

Businesses which hold an authorisation and approval with an end date will be required to apply for a UCC authorisation and approval. Your supervising office will not automatically reassess or reissue these. If you do not apply in time for your application to be processed your authorisation and approval will cease.

IP(D) and LVBI authorisations may not be used after 30 April 2016 regardless of any expiry dates shown on the authorisation letters as these facilitations do not exist under the UCC.

Authorisations with an end date will include:

- IP(D) ceases on 30 April 2016
- LVBI ceases on 30 April 2016
- IP
- PCC (no new imports may be made to PCC, see [Note 2](#))
- Outward Processing (OP)
- end use
- temporary admissions
- some TS approvals, operators should check their current approvals to see if an end date is quoted
- valuation simplifications (for example annual adjustment calculations)

Note 2

No new imports may be made to PCC customs procedure codes after 30 April 2016.

PCC authorisation holders will be issued with an IP authorisation number which must be used after 30 April 2016 for any new importations. The customs debt rules in article 85 of the UCC must be used for the new importations.

Amending Community Customs Code authorisations and approvals after 1 May 2016

Only processes, premises or operations which are already authorised or approved on 1 May 2016 will be allowed under the transition arrangements.

Any facilitations to be added will require a new application under the UCC arrangements for that regime or procedure. To take advantage of these new benefits a UCC compliant authorisation or approval for the particular type of regime or procedure will be required, for example retail sales in a customs warehouse).

Where changes to current authorisations and approvals do not have a substantive impact on the operation of the authorisation or approval, economic operators may be allowed to amend the authorisation or approval and remain under the Community Customs Code provisions. For example, an address change which does not affect the operation of the authorisation or approval: a head office move).

Substantive changes to the authorisation or approval will require a move to a full, UCC compliant authorisation this will trigger the need for any mandatory guarantees to be provided. For example, an address change for the approved premises: the customs warehouse.

Introduction of mandatory guarantees under the UCC

Businesses may continue to operate the following regimes or procedures after 1 May 2016 without providing a guarantee until they are changed to a new UCC authorisation and approval:

- IP
- OP with prior importation or under the standard exchange system
- temporary admissions where the UCC does not provide for an outright guarantee exemption
- end use
- TS
- customs warehousing

Upon authorisation or approval under the UCC, a guarantee will be required for these types of customs procedures.

Businesses may apply for a reduction in the level of guarantee required (if eligible a 0% guarantee or waiver may be granted).

Any new authorisations or approvals granted on or after 1 May 2016 will be required to provide a guarantee immediately.

One-off applications for a special procedure (for example IP) made using the customs declaration will require a guarantee to be provided prior to the goods being released.

Comprehensive transit guarantees, reductions or waivers issued before 1 May 2016 may continue to be used until the guarantee authorisation is reassessed by customs.

Deferment accounts may continue to be used after 1 May 2016 without requiring reauthorisation.

Any change to the deferment guarantee will require reauthorisation of the deferment account.

The UCC comprehensive guarantee criteria will need to be met in order to retain the deferment facility:

- satisfactory customs and taxation compliance

SIVA authorisations may continue to be used after 1 May 2016 until the authorisation is reassessed.

Businesses wishing to be authorised for SIVA authorisations will be required to meet the same standards as those required to obtain a guarantee waiver under the UCC (AEOC standards).

Taxes and charges to be included in the guarantee

Unless authorisations are held for SIVA and Excise Payment Security System, the deferment account guarantee will need to cover these charges where payable.

Guarantees for transit movements will need to cover all duties and charges applicable to the goods.

Guarantees to cover an authorisation or approval that will be used in more than one EU member state will need to cover all duties and charges applicable to the goods.

Guarantees to cover an authorisation or approval that will only be used in the UK will only need to include import VAT in the guarantee in the following circumstances, where:

- the authorisation or approval holder is not established in the EU
- the guarantee is being used for a simplified authorisation (for example, old style simplified CPEI (customs procedures with economic impact) (one-off inward processing), now known as 'authorisation on a customs declaration')
- non-compliance has been identified.

Impact of the UCC on the operation of customs procedures

Please refer to [Annex A](#) for the changes to customs procedures that will take effect on 1 May 2016 regardless of whether a Community Customs Code or UCC authorisation is held.

Please refer to [Annex B](#) for changes to customs procedures which will only come into effect once a UCC authorisation or approval is held.

Statistical requirements

In Annex A to this mailshot, you will note that certain requirements to submit SDs for goods entering a warehouse using EIDR or SDP are being removed with effect from 1 May 2016. However, this data will still be required for statistical purposes. HMRC is considering alternative ways of collecting warehousing data, and will write to you again as soon as we have decided how best to do this.

Annex A: changes taking effect on 1 May 2016 regardless of whether a Community Customs Code or UCC authorisation or approval is used

Binding decisions

Binding decisions issued before 1 May 2016 will continue to be valid until the decisions expiry date.

All binding decisions will become binding on the decision holder from 1 May 2016, regardless of whether they were issued as a Community Customs Code or UCC decision

Temporary Storage

There will be no changes to the exclusively operated rule on 1 May 2016.

All goods in TS on 1 May 2016 will commence a fresh storage period of 90 days.

All goods entered to TS on or after 1 May 2016 will be entitled to a storage period of 90 days.

Movements between TS premises will not trigger the start of a new storage period.

When moving goods under TS, businesses must notify the receiving TS operator of the date the goods first entered the TS arrangements and how many of the 90 days remain.

Movements between ITSF locations may be conducted on the inventory subject to the necessary data being included within commercial systems. See [Note 3](#). No transit declaration is required.

Movements from an ITSF to an External Temporary Storage Facility (ETSF) may be conducted on the inventory subject to the necessary data being included within commercial systems. See [Note 3](#). No transit declaration is required.

Any subsequent movements between ETSFs will require a full NCTS transit declaration.

Movements from an ITSF to CFSP designated premises may be made under TS arrangements using a C21 to release the goods from the frontier inventory system. No transit declaration is required.

Any subsequent movements between CFSP designated premises will require a full NCTS transit declaration.

Movements from an ETSF to a CFSP designated premises will require a full NCTS transit declaration.

Note 3

Movements between premises using the TS arrangements is dependent upon a sufficient level of information to identify the goods being held within the TS records and inventory systems.

The information must be sufficient to enable examinations and holds to be placed on the goods prior to their movement (fully describe the goods for targeting purposes).

Designated Export Place

The provisions that underpin Designated Export Place (DEPs) remain largely the same under the UCC, we do not envisage any impact on DEPs authorisations.

Local Clearance Procedure exports

This is being removed. EIDR will not be a suitable replacement for exports in most cases due to the legal restrictions on its use. LCP export traders will be contacted separately.

Customs Freight Simplified Procedures, Local Clearance Procedure (imports), called Entry in Declarant's Records under the UCC

Movements from an ITSF to CFSP designated premises may be made under TS arrangements using a C21 to release the goods from the frontier inventory system. No transit declaration is required.

Releases at the frontier to a customs procedure using EIDR using a C21 (quoting the relevant CPC for the procedure for example, customs warehousing 71 00 000) to clear the goods off the inventory.

Waivers from the requirement to notify customs prior to the release of goods to a customs procedure using EIDR is restricted to AEOC only.

Where the goods are entered to a customs warehouse using EIDR, no Supplementary Declaration Imports (SDI) is required.

This data will still be required for statistical purposes. We will advise you as soon as an alternative mechanism has been found.

An end of month Final Supplementary Declaration (FSD) will be required to account for all the goods entered into a customs warehouse.

EIDR may be used on or after 1 May 2016 to enter goods to:

- free circulation
- storage (customs warehousing)
- processing (IP and OP)
- specific use (end use and TA)

EIDR may not be used to enter goods to:

- TS

- Onward Supply Relief
- LVBI procedures (LVBI replacement)
- transit
- special procedures where an INF form is required

Customs Freight Simplified Procedures, Simplified Declaration Procedure (imports)

General SDP operations are unchanged under the UCC for 1 May 2016.

Where the goods are entered to a customs warehouse using SDP, no SDI is required.

This data will still be required for statistical purposes, we will advise you as soon as an alternative mechanism has been found.

An end of month FSD will be required to account for all the goods entered into a customs warehouse.

Subject to authorisation, new SDP procedures introduced for low value imports.

Subject to authorisation, new SDP procedures introduced for the removal of OSR goods from a customs warehouse.

SDP must be used for importations where supporting documents are not held at the time of release. Occasional users may use SDP without prior authorisation using the CHIEF transaction ISAD. Businesses releasing goods on a regular basis without supporting documents will require a full CFSP SDP authorisation.

Storage (customs warehousing)

Type D customs warehousing authorisation holders will be issued with an amended authorisation with a prefix of:

- C (if it is currently only a type D authorisation)
- E (if it is currently a type E warehouse with type D rules of assessment) - which must be used for all entries to the customs warehouse made after 1 May 2016 and the normal customs debt rules of assessment will apply
- goods entered to type D arrangements before 1 May 2016 may only be removed using type D rules of assessment until 31 December 2018
- goods entered to the customs warehouse using SDP or EIDR will not require the submission of an SDI, please note that this data still has to be collected for statistical purposes, we will advise you as soon as an alternative mechanism has been found

If the goods are being removed from the customs warehouse to be entered to another special procedure authorisation (held by the same business) a customs declaration will still be required where:

- customs warehousing was the first special procedure used
- where EIDR was used to originally enter the goods to the warehouse

Processing (inward and outward processing)

No new imports may be made to IP(D) customs procedure codes after 30 April 2016.

No new imports may be made to PCC customs procedure codes after 30 April 2016.

PCC authorisation holders will be issued with an IP authorisation number which must be used after 30 April 2016 for any new importations, businesses who continue to use their Community Customs Code authorisations to import to IP must use the customs debt rules in article 85 of the UCC for the new importations.

All goods entered to PCC prior to 1 May 2016 must be discharged under the new UCC rules (article 85 of the UCC).

Businesses will have a period of six months to reclaim duties paid on goods imported to IP(D) prior to 1 May 2016.

Specific use (end use and temporary admissions)

All goods discharged from end use on or after 1 May 2016 will require a Bill of Discharge to be submitted.

A maximum period of 10 years for imported goods to be held within the temporary admission procedure, regardless of any movements of goods between authorisations.

Goods entered to temporary admissions before 1 May 2016 should be discharged using the Community Customs Code rules.

Single Authorisation for Simplified Procedures, known as Centralised Clearance under the UCC

Businesses wishing to use Single Authorisation for Simplified Procedures (SASP) must be an AEOC.

The exclusions introduced to EIDR will apply equally to businesses using EIDR with a SASP authorisation.

Banana importers

Where the weighing certificates are not held at the time of importation the consignment must be released using the SDP or IP.

Imports who regularly do not hold the weight certificates at the time of border release will be required to hold a full authorisation for SDP or IP.

Importers of bananas who, on an occasional basis do not hold the weight certificates prior to release, may be eligible to release the goods under SDP without holding a full authorisation using the occasional use arrangements.

Alternatively the 'authorisation on a customs declaration' simplified IP procedures may be used.

Simplified inward processing procedures (authorisation on a customs declaration) for imports of bananas without a weight certificate, may only be applied for 3 times per annum. The value of goods entered to the procedure per annum must not exceed £500,000.

Customs valuation

Earlier sales prices may only be used after 1 May 2016 if a binding contract was in place prior to the Implementing Act (IA) coming into force. This is expected to be the twentieth day following its publication in the Official Journal of the EU.

Royalty payments will generally need to be included in the calculation of the customs value after 30 April 2016.

Level 1 and level 2 transit simplifications

Air and sea level 1 and 2 paper based simplifications will cease under the UCC once IT systems are in place.

Current authorisations can continue to be used until they are re-assessed (to be completed by 1 May 2019).

Anyone wishing to apply to use an 'electronic transport document' as a transit declaration after 1 May 2016 will be required to use electronic systems immediately.

Any electronic systems in place on 1 May 2016 must continue to be used.

Where paper simplifications are being currently used, any additional data elements under the UCC will need to be added on the paper document from 1 May 2016 until re-assessed for an electronic system.

Use of special transit seals

Seal types authorised under the Community Customs Code may continue to be used until current stocks run out or 30 April 2019, whichever is earliest,

Proof of Union Status

Thresholds for the use of invoice declarations and customs manifests as Proof of Union Status (PoUS) is increased from €10,000 to €15,000.

There are no other changes to PoUS for 1 May 2016. Please see Annex B for later changes.

Annex B: changes only taking effect once a full UCC authorisation is held

Authorised Economic Operator Customs Simplifications

Two new criteria are introduced for businesses wishing to be granted AEOC status:

- have a satisfactory compliance history in other taxation areas
- display practical standards of competency or hold professional qualifications in customs matters. Businesses already authorised for AEOC will be assessed against these new criteria as part of the ongoing AEO monitoring activity

Authorised Economic Operator Safety and Security

A new criterion is introduced for businesses wishing to be granted AEOC status to have a satisfactory compliance history in other taxation areas.

Businesses already authorised for AEOC will be assessed against these new criteria as part of the ongoing AEO monitoring activity.

Temporary Storage

New UCC TS data sets will apply for the TS declaration following the introduction of the new Customs declaration processing system (CHIEF (Customs Handling of Import and Export Freight) replacement currently planned for October 2017).

Guarantees will be required for the operation of TS.

TS operators will be contacted with further details on how the exclusively operated requirement will affect their approval.

Businesses wishing to operate TS premises will be required to meet additional approval criteria:

- have a satisfactory compliance history in other taxation areas
- have adequate IT security to protect systems and data
- have appropriate security and safety protocols to protect the premises, goods and access controls (physical and IT)
- display practical standards of competency or hold professional qualifications in customs matters.

Once a new UCC TS authorisation is held, the following movement types may also be made under TS as full inventory linking and TS guarantees will be in place to cover the movements of the goods:

- between ETSFs
- between CFSP TS premises
- from an ETSF to a CFSP TS premises
- between TS premises in different member states (restricted to AEOCs only)

Designated Export Place

The provisions that underpin Designated Export Place (DEPs) remain largely the same under the UCC, we do not envisage any impact on DEPs authorisations.

Local Clearance Procedure exports

This is being removed. EIDR will not be a suitable replacement for exports in most cases due to the legal restrictions on its use. LCP export traders will be contacted separately.

Customs Freight Simplified Procedures imports

SDP procedures introduced for entering goods to OSR on their removal from a customs warehouse. Businesses will need to be authorised to use this arrangement. The customs warehousing authorisation may also require amendment to allow SDP as a form of release

SDP low value imports is introduced as a replacement for LVBI. SDP low value imports will require prior authorisation to use

CFSP TS premises will be required to meet the full TS standards, including Phase II inventory linking. Goods may then move between CFSP TS premises using TS arrangements.

New data sets will apply for the EIDR notification of release of goods to a customs procedure following the introduction of the new Customs declaration processing system (CHIEF replacement currently planned for October 2017).

New data sets will apply to the SFD, EIDR (initial declaration in records) and the SDs following the introduction of the new customs declaration processing system (CHIEF replacement currently planned for October 2017).

New time limits will apply for the submission of the SDs following the introduction of the new Customs declaration processing system (CHIEF replacement currently planned for October 2017).

Where the customs debt is guaranteed, the SD may be submitted by the 4th working day of the following month.

Where the customs debt is not guaranteed, the SD must be submitted within 10 days of the goods release to the customs procedure.

Businesses wishing to be authorised for CFSP EIDR will be required to meet an additional criterion:

- have a satisfactory compliance history in other taxation areas
- businesses wishing to be authorised for CFSP SDP will be required to meet additional criteria:
 - have a satisfactory compliance history in other taxation areas
 - have satisfactory internal management controls to verify the accuracy of customs declarations

Centralised clearance

SASP is expected to become centralised clearance in 2020 once the IT systems are developed in the EU.

Special procedures (excluding transit)

All new special procedure authorisations will be required to provide a guarantee. There are no criterion changes for special procedures (excluding transit).

Storage

Goods entered to a type D warehouse before 1 May 2016, may only be removed using type D rules of assessment until 31 December 2018.

Businesses may apply for authorisation to make remote retail sales in a customs warehouse. This would require a full UCC authorisation, including the provision of a guarantee.

Type E warehousing will require all storage premises to be named on the authorisation. Type E warehouses will need to be re-designated as public or private warehouses.

Processing

Claims may be submitted for goods entered to IP(D) prior to 1 May 2016 until 31 October 2016.

The requirement to export inward processing goods is removed.

The requirements for an economic test is reduced.

Goods may be moved between special procedure authorisations (held by the same business) using an entry in the businesses commercial records without being required to submit a customs declaration (see [Note 4](#) for an exception to this facilitation).

Note 4

If the goods are being removed from the customs warehouse to be entered to another special procedure authorisation (held by the same business) a customs declaration will still be required where:

- customs warehousing was the first special procedure used
- where EIDR was used to originally enter the goods to the warehouse

Specific use

Military end use goods (Council Regulation 150/2003) may only be entered to end use by the Ministry of Defence.

Sub-contractors will be required to use inward processing.

Registered exporters for GSP preference

The Registered Exporter Scheme (REX) is a self-certification scheme for exporters that will replace GSP preference certificates. REX registration will begin on 1 January 2017.

From 1 January 2018 it will no longer be possible to use an EUR1 for bi-lateral cumulation (when goods of EU origin are used as materials to manufacture goods in a beneficiary country for import into the EU) and the National Clearance Hub will no longer issue GSP Form As to reconsign goods to another member state.

For GSP beneficiary countries there will be a phased approach with full implementation by 30 June 2020.

Authorised banana weighers

Businesses wishing to be authorised banana weighers will be required to meet new authorisation criteria under the UCC:

- have a satisfactory compliance history in other taxation areas
- have satisfactory internal management controls to manage the accurate weighing of the bananas
- display practical standards of competency or hold professional qualifications in customs matters

Customs valuation

Earlier sales prices agreed in binding contracts prior to the IA coming into force may only be used until 31 December 2017. The IA is expected to come into force on the twentieth day following its publication in the Official Journal of the EU.

Businesses wishing to be authorised for a valuation simplification must meet additional criteria under the UCC:

- have a satisfactory compliance history in other taxation areas
- have satisfactory internal management controls to ensure the accuracy of the customs valuation
- have satisfactory commercial records to verify the accuracy of the declared customs value

Simplified Import VAT Accounting

Businesses wishing to be authorised for SIVA authorisations will be required to meet the same standards as those required to obtain a guarantee waiver under the UCC (AEOC standards).

Transit simplifications

Businesses wishing to be authorised for any transit simplifications under the UCC will be required to meet additional criteria:

- have a satisfactory compliance history in other taxation areas
- access to be provided at an agreed location to the commercial and customs records
- have satisfactory procedures for managing customs documentation
- have adequate IT security to protect systems and data

Use of a seals of a special type for transit

Once stocks of seals authorised under a Community Customs Code authorisation have run out a new, UCC authorisation will be required. The new seals to be used will be required to comply with the UCC rules.

Use of a transport document as a transit declaration

Air and sea level 1 and 2 paper based simplifications cease once UCC compliant IT systems are in place.

Current authorisations can continue to be used until they are re-assessed (to be completed by 1 May 2019).

Anyone wishing to apply to use an 'electronic transport document' as a transit declaration after 1 May 2016 will be required to use electronic systems immediately.

Anyone currently using a mix of electronic and paper simplifications should migrate to an electronic system as soon as possible - (this will trigger a UCC re-authorisation which will include the fulfilment of the AEO criteria).

Any electronic systems already in place must be continued to be used. Where an electronic system is currently being used, if the data elements for the electronic transport document do not fulfil the UCC data sets, businesses have until 1 May 2019 or re-assessment to add these to their systems.

Where paper simplifications are being currently used, any additional data elements under the UCC will need to be added on the paper document from 1 May 2016 until re-assessed for an electronic system.

Proof of Union Status

Following the introduction of the EUPoUS system:

- T2Ls and T2LFs to be submitted using the electronic system
- customs manifest and invoice declarations may only be used for goods under the value threshold of €15,000

Under the UCC, businesses may only become authorised issuers for PoUS for:

- customs manifests up to the value threshold of €15,000
- T2Ls and T2LFs

Businesses wishing to be an authorised issuer for PoUS under the UCC will be required to meet additional criteria:

- have a satisfactory compliance history in other taxation areas

- access to be provided at an agreed location to the commercial and customs records
- have satisfactory procedures for managing customs documentation
- have adequate IT security to protect systems and data

4. Contacts

Further information on the UCC will be made available on GOV.UK.

Issued on the 13 October 2015 by Customs Directorate, HM Revenue and Customs.

[Your Charter](#) explains what you can expect from us and what we expect from you.