

API Spec (Full Declaration)

The new HMRC software that will replace the current CHIEF service, the Customs Declaration Service (CDS), is structured around 'best of breed' Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS) packages. The hub of this new architecture is the IBM package known as Declaration Management System (DMS). This package is being updated to comply with the EU CDM and HMRC are aligning themselves to this structure for all Customs related data involved in standard Customs procedures.

This will mean moving away from EDIFACT messages and towards the standard World Customs Organisation (WCO) XML Schema for Declarations. The WCO Customs Data Model is itself constantly evolving so HMRC have used version 3.6 as a baseline for this documentation. The mapping of current EDIFACT data elements and WCO 3.6 Schema elements is a work in progress. Any thoughts with regards to this mapping are welcome.

The data element requirements for the various declaration and notification types are set out in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 Annex B. The coding of the data elements is specified in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 Annex B. These aim to align the EU CDM (Customs Data Model) with the WCO CDM.

The CDS will be developed to meet full UCC compliant data sets, irrespective of Brexit.

Supplementary Declarations are not however a specified declaration type within the annex. A UK ex-warehouse Supplementary Declaration data set has therefore been created reflecting the current SDW data elements adjusted to fit the UCC requirements.

There are a number of caveats attached to the data sets –

- The EU CDM and WCO CDM are due to be updated during 2017
- There are ongoing proposals within the DIH (Data Integration and Harmonisation) group of the EU to amend some of the data elements/codes
- There are recognised functional gaps between CHIEF and DMS, most notably boxes 61 to 68 (valuation data elements), which need to be addressed
- Work is ongoing to identify which codes the UK will use in cases where we have the option to adapt them to our requirements e.g., which methods of payment we will accept
- Work is required to identify waivers on the data requirements where these are within the discretion of HMRC (optional boxes on the declaration)
- The impact of Brexit is unknown
- The IBM Customised schemas will be used as a basis for the xpaths of Data Elements going forward – this should allow us to clarify rows in the spreadsheet that have multiple xpath options for one data element.

Glossary

Acronym	Expanded	Meaning	Additional Info
CDS	Customs Declaration Services Programme	<p>Changes to legislation means the handling system for imports and exports needs to change. There would be a new service to process the required declaration for goods entering and leaving the UK/EU.</p> <p>It is the system that will replace CHIEF.</p>	<p>The new service would need to: identify and collect the right duties and taxes; release goods through inter-operation with port and airport inventory systems; allow frontier and inland freight controls within the UK to be used by nominated agency; electronically process all required custom declaration; record trade and transport statistics; accommodate the UCC changes</p>
CHIEF	Customs Handling of Import and Export Freight	<p>System records the declaration to Customs of goods by land, air and sea. It allows importers, exporters and freight forwarders to complete customs information electronically, and automatically checks for entry error.</p>	<p>It connects with five CSPs and undertakes a risk assessment process, it identifies which consignments, or goods within a consignment, will need to be physically examined, or have their documentation examined. This gives legitimate goods, and those deemed to be a low-level risk, faster passage when they are directly imported from non-EU countries, or exported to them from the UK</p>

Acronym	Expanded	Meaning	Additional Info
CFSP	Customs Freight (Import) Simplified Procedures	Is a method of declaration that you can use when importing third country goods. You don't have to use this method, but it provides: faster release of goods from countries that are not members of the EU at the frontier or inland; simpler customs declarations; cashflow benefits to importers	There are 2 types of CFSP authorisation: - simplified declaration procedure: used for releasing goods at the frontier to most custom procedures and which may be useful if importing perishable goods - Local clearance procedure: used for moving goods from the frontier to storage and then releasing them to a custom procedure
DMS	Declaration Management System	IBM software used to orchestrate the processing of Customs Declarations.	
EDIFACT	Electronic Data Interchange For Commerce and Transport	Set of United Nations backed standards, directories, and guidelines to define data sets and protocols for electronic documents used in electronic data interchange (EDI)	EDIFACT standard provides: - A set of syntax rules to structure data - An interactive exchange protocol - Standard messages which allows multi-country and multi-industry exchange

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UCC	Union Customs Code	It is a set of legislative requirements being rolled out across the EU impacting all custom authorities. Is part of the modernisation of customs and serves as the new framework regulation on the rules and procedures for customs throughout the EU	It is meant to have a natural evolution towards modern customs environment with multiple benefits once fully implemented. To streamline customs legislations and procedures, offer greater legal certainty to businesses, reinforce swifter custom procedures and increase clarity for custom officials throughout the EU. On the 01/05/16 the UCC would be transitioned so that full implementation can be achieved. Due to the fact that there is a need to develop/upgrade IT systems to fully implement legal requirements. The transition would last till '20
WCO	World Customs Organization	Is an intergovernmental organisation headquartered in Brussels. The WCO is noted for its work in areas covering the development of international conventions, instruments and tools on topics such as commodity classification, valuation, rules of origin, collection of customs revenue, supply chain security, international trade facilitation, customs enforcement activities, combating counterfeiting goods in support of intellectual property, drugs enforcement, weapons illegal trading	The WCO maintains the international harmonised system goods classification and administers the technical aspects of the world trade organisation agreements on custom valuation and rules of origin.

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SDW	Warehouse Removal Supplementary Declaration	Part of the Import Simplified Procedures (CFSP) of Entry Processing.	