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Implementing SAP® BusinessObjects
Global Trade Services
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Products need to be classified for export and import trade processing. Compliance Management uses the product classifications to apply relevant controls and determine the license required to export or import a product. Customs Management uses product classification for export and importing reporting and declaration. Customs Management product classifications are used for determining importing tariffs, duties, or restrictions.

5 Classification

From a trade reporting and control point of view, products need to be classified. These classifications are used to identify different products for export and import purposes, and allow customs authorities to determine if any restrictions or controls need to be applied. ECCNs, which are part of the Commerce Control List, are issued by the Department of Commerce and are used to identify your product and determine if a license is needed to export it. The ECCN is an alphanumeric number that describes a product or type of item, so it can be identified for export by the customs authorities. Your company’s product numbers or material numbers are internal to your company, and product classification is a standardized way to identify the products. ECCN also represents the control that might apply to the product for export processing. The Harmonized Tariff System (HTS) is an internationally agreed-upon commodity code and classification system for goods imported into any country. HTS codes are associated with the country of origin and indicate what import restrictions, tariffs, or duties are applied to products.

The International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) details the regulations governing the export of military- and defense-related products and technologies. It details the procedures, licenses and agreements, penalties, and administrative requirements relating to ITAR regulations. With ITAR regulations, the products are identified and classified with the U.S. Munitions List (USML). It is the responsibility of the exporter to properly classify the products shipped, as controlled to meet the compliance. This classification indicates whether the product requires a license or license exemption under special circumstances. Companies that deal with military equipment have to constantly deal with USML classification, but there are also
companies that deal with civilian products that have dual applications, and need to classify and apply both ECCN and USML classifications to their products.

In the following sections, we will go over the design and application of the numbering scheme that represents the export and import classification numbers.

5.1 Numbering Schemes: Design and Application

Numbering schemes allow you to define the structure of your export and import classification numbers. It is important that you give some thought to their design because it will influence their application and use. There are various numbering scheme configurations that are pre-delivered and applicable to different functions with SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services, and the numbering scheme structure is modified based on the application. From a business application point of view, there are numbering schemes that are either meant for export or import, but in SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services, there are different numbering schemes based on the usage and application within the SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services module or functionality.

Note

Numbering schemes are defined within the general settings of SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services. Following the definition, these numbers are assignments to legal regulations, and based on the assignment, the license determination strategy is maintained. The license determination strategy allows you to maintain the license types, and the license type represents the export or import controls. For example, the ECCN assignment to the legal control applies to the compliance legal control — export or import. Similarly, the assignment of HTS codes applies to customs or transit processing legal regulations.

In the following sections, we will go over the different export and import numbers and their applications and functionality with SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services.

5.1.1 Export and Import Lists

ECCN is defined as a numbering scheme within SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services. While defining the number, you can decide the different levels you would like the structure to have; for example, the category, group and sub-category. Hav-
ing different levels not only helps you organize the number but also the text and description for each level. In other words, if you want to search against a category or group, it is recommended that you maintain that as a structure level.

The pre-delivered structure of SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services is shown in the upper section of Figure 5.1. While defining the level, you have the option to configure the exact length or a range of length. Exact length will force users to maintain the exact length of the code. If you plan on getting ECCNs, you might want to check with your content provider for the structure they will be providing and maintain this structure accordingly.

In the following sections, we will go over the lists assignment to enable the import and export legal control.

![Figure 5.1 ECCN Structure Definition and Assignment](image)

**Export Lists Assignments**

After the numbering scheme is defined, it needs to be assigned to the legal regulations for license maintenance and legal control. The legal control assignment allows you to assign the ECCN to specific legal regulations within a product. If you have a product shipped out of a specific country and have the export regulation...
active, the system will look for the classification assigned to this regulation. Assigning numbering schemes to license maintenance allows you to use the classification number for export license determination.

Within the assignment of the export list to the license maintenance and legal control, it’s important that you only assign the export number and keep the Customs TS-Import blank, as shown in the bottom section of Figure 5.1. The menu path for the numbering scheme and assignment is SAP REFERENCE IMG • SAP GLOBAL TRADE SERVICES • GENERAL SETTINGS • NUMBERING SCHEMES.

**Import Lists Assignments**

Similar to export lists, you can maintain import classifications for import license determination. You have two options for this design: You can maintain a unique import numbering scheme for import license determination, or you can use the numbering scheme of the HTS for license determination purposes.

Note that to perform import license determination, you must have a legal regulation activated for imports. You can share the numbering scheme for more than one regulation; HTS is used for customs declaration and can also be used for import-compliance checking.

### 5.1.2 Harmonized Tariff Numbers and Commodity Codes

Import and export control makes use of the product classification to apply the legal control for goods that are being imported or exported. As mentioned earlier, international countries have come to an understanding on a common nomenclature, which promotes trade and facilitates the understanding of the classification numbers, the HTS. The first 6 digits of the numbers used in this system are always the same; beyond this, the numbers differ depending on the country. In fact, even the length of the number differs by country. For example, the United States, Canada, China, and Korea use 10-digit numbers, as do most of countries in the European Union (with the exception of Germany, which uses 11). Israel uses 8, Japan and Malaysia use 9, Singapore uses 8, and Taiwan uses 11. These codes help the importing countries identify the products being imported.
Exporting countries also use the classifications to record the goods exported for statistical purposes. The same numbers are used, but not all the digits are recorded. For example, the US harmonized tariff number Chapter 8426 (ships’ derricks, cranes, including cable cranes, mobile) might be used for statistical purposes, even though the full number is 8426410005 (work trucks fitted with cranes).

When exporting from the United States, a product has to be reported to the US authorities with the classification number and value of the goods being exported. For US export reporting, the US government is only interested in knowing the classification number up to the first six digits of the tariff number, and the rest of the digits can be filled with zeros. The classification number used by the exporting country is called the commodity code. Commodity codes are also used by the European Union, within Intrastat and Extrastat reporting. These reports record the goods coming in and going out of the European Union.

The numbering scheme for harmonized tariff numbers and commodity codes are different from ECCNs, which we discussed earlier in this chapter. Harmonized Tariff System (HTS) numbers have a longer structure, with chapters, headings, subheadings, non-fully qualified numbers, and fully qualified numbers. There are also subfolders for additional functionality. Figure 5.2 displays the pre-delivered numbering scheme for Germany, which shows the structure and configuration settings within the folder management of customs products.
With HTS, you also have associated dates of validity, so it is important that you configure that within the Maintenance of Customs Products folder by selecting the option listed as 1 Valid From and Valid To Date Can be Maintained. Within the External Units of Measure, you want to list all of the supplementary units of measure that are used in association with HTS. HTS numbers have their own units of measure, which are used for reporting purposes. The second part of Figure 5.2 displays this configuration assignment.

### Note
Numbering schemes for commodity codes and HTS numbers are interchangeable and will appear in possible numbering schemes for assignment in Customs Management. They are used for export or import documentation and declarations.

In the following sections, we will go over the assignment of the numbering scheme for Customs Management and transit procedures.

### Assignment
Similar to the legal control export and import list, we need to assign the numbering scheme defined as tariff number to customs and transit processing. Customers are moving toward using one numbering scheme for customs processing of exports (commodity codes) and imports (harmonized tariff codes), which eliminates the need to maintain the content and assignment of classification. To make use of this functionality, you must ensure that the same numbering scheme is assigned to exports and imports for legal regulation within HTS and commodity codes.

Figure 5.3 displays the typical case, with the one numbering scheme “USHTS” assigned as a commodity code and tariff code within customs processing.

### Note
If you plan to use a harmonized tariff number to control an import license, than you need to ensure that the number is assigned to the legal regulation under SAP GTS • General Settings • Numbering Scheme • Assign Numbering Scheme of Tariff Code Number for License Maintenance.
Figure 5.3 Assignment of Tariff Number and Commodity Code Within Customs Processing

**End Uses**

SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services 7.1 and higher provides the functionality to identify the end use for your product. These end uses are defined within SAP Global Trade Services • General Settings • Numbering Schemes • Define End Uses for Numbering Scheme of Tariff Code Numbers. Here you define the five-character end use code, with a description. Following the definition, you need to ensure that these end use codes are assigned to the tariff number definition within the folder End Use, as shown in Figure 5.2.

### 5.1.3 Other Numbering Schemes

Apart from the import and export numbering schemes, there are other numbering schemes that facilitate trade processing delivered with SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services 7.1 and higher. The menu path for these numbering schemes can be found under SAP Reference IMG • SAP Global Trade Services • General Settings • Numbering Scheme.

In the following sections, we will review additional numbering schemes that you could define other than the ones we reviewed so far for export, import, or tariff number, such as customs codes and other government agencies (OGA).
Classification

**Customs Codes**

In addition to product classifications, these are codes that are defined by authorities and used to identity shipped products. The structure definition is similar to the other numbering schemes.

**Other Government Agencies**

US customs authorities require identifying or assigning codes to your imported products to notify other government agencies that might be interested. The definition of the other government agencies (OGA) structure is similar to the other numbering schemes. Following the definition of the OGA numbering scheme, you must assign the codes with the tariff number definition under the Measure Types and the Coding Schemes folders, as shown in Figure 5.4.

![Figure 5.4](image)

**5.2 Product Content and Classification**

SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services provides XML interface for content upload and manual updates. There are companies that provide the content in the
XML format specified by SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services, which you can then load directly using transactions or pre-delivered programs. In this section, we discuss the different options available for uploading or maintaining the content for the different numbering schemes we have defined and assigned.

Following content maintenance, the classification needs to be assigned to the product. There are various tools available to facilitate initial assignments, mass assignments, and reclasifications. In this section, we discuss some of the key functionalities and see what business process procedures work best for different business cases. We will go over the functionality to load the content manually, through XML files and associated functionality to facilitate the product classification and reclassification, when the regulations updates with the new number.

### 5.2.1 Content

The content load and maintenance for different numbering schemes are similar but sometimes use different transactions and programs. The content loads are separate for export, import and customs management commodity codes or tariffs. We will review the content load for export classification number; the same methodology applies to other numbering schemes. The method for the classification content load can be put into two broad categories:

- Manual

- Using an XML interface file

Classification for compliance (export control classification numbers or import control classification numbers) is manually maintained under SAP COMPLIANCE MANAGEMENT • CLASSIFICATION/MASTER DATA. There are two sections, Export, on your right, and Import, on your left. To maintain export control classification numbers, click Maintain Export Classification Number. The system prompts you to enter the numbering scheme and then gives you the option to create or display. When you click on Create, it allows you to maintain the content manually.

Figure 5.5 displays the data selection for uploading content into SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services. To upload using an XML interface file, enter the data provider (business partner with the BP role SLLDAP selected), enter the numbering scheme (within Alternative Numbering Scheme), key in the path for HTS and the text XML file under Local or Application Server, check the Overwrite Text for Following Objects checkbox, and keep everything under General Control Parameters checked, except for Simulation Mode.
Classification

When you maintain the classification, the screen proposes the options to maintain the different levels defined within the numbering scheme. Figure 5.6 displays the different folders and hierarchy within Content Maintenance.

5.2.2 Product Classification

As new products are created and transferred to SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services from the feeder system, products are researched and assigned appropriate classifications. SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services provides different functions and features to facilitate this process. The classification for products can be found under both Compliance Management and Customs Management. For Compliance Management, the menu path is SAP GLOBAL TRADE SERVICES • COMPLIANCE MANAGEMENT • CLASSIFICATION/MASTER DATA. For Customs Management, it's SAP GLOBAL TRADE SERVICES • CUSTOMS MANAGEMENT • CLASSIFICATION AND MASTER DATA.
In the following sections, we will go over classification tools that facilitate the product classification and reassignment of the classification when the classification changes. The reclassification allows you to assign a new number based on the regulation update from the government with a new number.

**Worklist**

*Worklist* is a classification tool that allows you to classify products for one numbering scheme, such as for compliance export classification or Customs Management HTS numbers (see Figure 5.7). It allows you to filter products that are due for classification based on the various selection options available (e.g., Newly Transferred to GTS, Created By, etc.).
This function allows you to research the product based on its description and search and research classifications based on the different level descriptions maintained in the classification content. Following the search, you can use functions such as the clipboard to return to your search and assign the right classification. Worklist also allows you further filter while you are in the output report, and mass-assign classifications to lists of products.

Figure 5.8 displays the Worklist output and the various functions within the Worklist report. takes you to the product details, allows you to mass-assign the classification for selected products, allows you to filter the list further, and so on.

**Reclassification**

Reclassification allows you to assign a new classification and replace an existing one. Different countries provide classification updates periodically based on the regulation change, and it is the responsibility of companies to reclassify the products that are affected.
You can plan reclassification for future dates, based on the validity of the new numbers. In other words, if you have a classification number expiring in the future, and a new number will need to be assigned, you don't have to wait until that date. You can run the reclassification with the new number validity start date in the future, and the new classification will become active on the validity date. Figure 5.9 displays two HTS codes that are updated with validity dates. In the figure, you can see two dates, Validity Dates, which are associated with the classification number validity dates (primarily used for the tariff codes). The classification period is the date the classification is valid from and to; in other words, it indicates which classification will be used for the product assignment within the document processing.

One View Product Classification

If a business wants to view all of the classifications in one view, you can review Legal Control Export and Import classification and Customs Management Commodity Code and Tariff Number or Preference determination numbering scheme and update respective numbers. Unlike Worklist, you must assign the classifications one product at a time; however, you can apply all of the classifications in one transaction (see Figure 5.9). You can use the search features to pull the right classification from the content database. With one transaction, you can get all of the views of the products, for example, the General Basic Data view, Classification Number for HTS and Commodity Codes, Legal Control for Export, and Import Control Number.
Figure 5.9 also displays the supplementary units within the classification screen. These units are the units specific to HTS used for reporting purposes. For example, in the case of shipper export declarations, the reporting is based on HTS and not based on a company's product number. If you have a unit of measure for HTS that is different from the product unit of measure, it's important that you maintain it in SAP ECC or the feeder system, so that reports are in the HTS unit of measure. If maintained in the SAP ECC material master, with transfers from SAP ECC to SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services, this information flows to SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services. You can also maintain it within General Basic Data in SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services.
5.3 Summary

The definition of numbering schemes is important to content loads and structure because a good design helps you maintain the classification numbers and search for product classifications. In this chapter, we discussed how to maintain classifications manually and through an XML file, assignment to the different functionality, and ways that SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services provides functionality to facilitate product classification. We looked at the different numbering schemes that might apply to different functions with compliance, customs, and preferential processing. We reviewed different tools and functions that allow you to classify and reclassify a product when the regulations change.

In the next chapter, we move to the topic of legal control and license determination, which is one of the core functionalities within Compliance Management. ECCNs are used for legal control and license determination, and, with this chapter as a background, you will understand how these numbers help to perform export and import control.
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