

Companies registered in Finland apply for registration for message exchange based on their business IDs. Companies registered abroad apply for the same based on VAT. As a rule, every company needs only one decision on registration for message exchange. The registration is free of charge.

If a company wishes to register for only one system or a part of the systems, it should fill in only the sections of the application which concern the system(s) in question.

Registration is applied for to the following systems of Finnish Customs:

- **ITU** import system
- **ELEX** export system
- **Transit system**
- Summary declaration system **AREX**
- Excise taxation system (**EMCS**)
- Åland tax border system (**ALA**)
- Internal trade statistics declaration system (**Intrastat**)

New application or an amendment application?

You should select an amendment application if changes are to be made, for example, to the following information:

- Change of software (may require new testing with Customs)
- The company extends the use of message exchange to another system
- Change of operator in operator-based message exchange
- Change of service provider in direct message exchange (the message declarant must notify Customs of the change of service provider, and the new service provider must have authorisation for direct message exchange)
- The company wishes to end its message exchange customer status due to, for example, corporate arrangements (the reason to be stated under section I, Additional information).

If the business ID of the company changes, it is regarded as a new company which must make a new application.

A. Basic details of the business

The name and address details of the company

Give the name and address of the company's principal place of business.

Business ID

A company registered in Finland provides its business ID which is granted by the Finnish authorities and which is accordant with the Finnish Business Information System. The business ID format is 1234567-8. If the company is registered in another country, the text field is left empty. Registration cannot be applied for according to corporation.

If the company is not registered in Finland, it should provide its foreign VAT and EORI numbers. If the company has a branch office in Finland for which a business ID has been granted there, the ID of the branch office can also be provided under this section.

VAT number

The VAT number indicates value added tax liability of a business or entity. The VAT number should only be given if the applicant is not registered in Finland.

VAT number in direct message exchange

A server certificate that contains the company's VAT number is used for identifying the company in the service provided by Customs. The company's VAT number is to be provided at the same time.

If the applicant company is registered in Finland, the default VAT number is the VAT ID based on the business ID (format: FI12345678), which means that the section can be left blank.

If the company is a direct message exchanger using a service provider for creating and transmitting messages (section E.1., "Activity of the applicant", option 3), it does not use a service certificate. In this case, it is not necessary to provide the VAT number.

EORI number

If the company is registered in Finland, this field is left blank.

If a Finnish company does not have an EORI number, it is granted automatically in connection with processing the application.

The EORI number of a company registered in Finland is formed by adding the letters FI before the business ID, which means that the EORI number format is FI1234567-8.

A company registered in another country must provide the EORI number it has received in Finland or in another EU member state. If a company registered elsewhere in the EU and not in Finland does not yet have an EORI number, it is to be applied for in the member state where the company is located and practices business accordant with customs legislation. Companies based in another EU member state are not registered in Finland.

A company located outside the EU which does not have an EORI number can apply for one with the message exchange application by providing the information requested in section H. This form is not intended for applying for an EORI number only.

EORI number in direct message exchange

A company does not need an EORI number if it does not act as a direct message declarant, but only as a service provider to other companies. If no member state has granted an EORI number to the service provider in question, this field is left blank.

Extension codes for offices given to the applicant by Finnish Customs

If the company has received a business ID extension code from Customs (for example of the format T0001), the extension code information is to be entered in this section for each system. The extension code is obligatory information in import and export.

B. Customs data systems for which registration or amendment is applied

You should only list the systems for which registration or a registration amendment is applied in the form.

ITU import system

Here you indicate the type of customer status that your company is applying for. An authorisation for deferred payment is required for import message declarations.

You either select direct message exchange or operator-based message exchange according to the transaction channel you intend to use for submitting import declaration messages to Customs. If your company wishes to move from operator-based message exchange to direct message exchange, you must choose direct message exchange as the transaction channel, and state the reason for the change under the "Additional information" section.

An EDI sender is a holder of the Customs' authorisation for deferred payment (importer or forwarding agency) authorised by Customs to submit electronic customs declarations in message format from its own data system.

A technical sender is a company that sends import declarations as EDI messages on behalf of another representative. A company which is registered or is applying for registration as an EDI sender within import can become a technical sender. When applying for the status of technical sender within import, the company must provide as an enclosure to this application an affirmation drafted by the representative (on whose behalf the company sends EDI messages) confirming its authorisation to use a technical sender on behalf of each of its clients.

ELEX export system

You either select direct message exchange or operator-based message exchange according to the transaction channel you intend to use for submitting export declaration messages to Customs. If your company wishes to move from operator-based message exchange to direct message exchange, you must choose direct message exchange as the transaction channel, and state the reason for the change under the "Additional information" section.

Message exchange within export requires registered credit customership with Customs.

If you intend to send arrival at exit messages, you are to state this under section I. Additional information

Summary declaration system AREX

You either select direct message exchange or operator-based message exchange according to the transaction channel you intend to use for submitting AREX declaration messages to Customs.

If your company wishes to move from operator-based message exchange to direct message exchange, you must choose direct message exchange as the transaction channel, and state the reason for the change under the "Additional information" section.

Transit system

You either select direct message exchange or operator-based message exchange according to the transaction channel you intend to use for submitting transit declaration messages to Customs. If your company wishes to move from operator-based message exchange to direct message exchange, you must choose direct message exchange as the transaction channel, and state the reason for the change under the "Additional information" section.

If your application concerns messages of an authorised operator, this application is enclosed with a separate authorisation application.

The application forms for authorised operators are available in Finnish on the Customs website at http://www.tulli.fi/fi/yrityksille/sahkoinenasiointi/lomakkeet/passituksen_lomakkeet/index.jsp.

Authorised operators can apply for EDI sender status. Such operators are:

- Authorised consignors: Operators responsible for NCTS transits (Community/common transit system) who personally submit their own transit declarations to Customs
- Authorised consignees: Operators who receive NCTS transits (Community/common transit system) who personally submit their own transit declarations to Customs
- TIR authorised consignees: Warehouse operators or other operators who receive TIR transits who personally submit their own transit declarations to Customs.

TIR declarants: Operators who send TIR transits compliant with Customs' specifications as so-called MANU-EDI messages.

MANU-EDI: Operators (not authorised consignors) who submit transit declaration messages via direct message exchange or through an operator.

Person in charge of message exchange:

Operators who have data connections with Customs and are able to submit messages compliant with Customs' specifications on behalf of an authorised sender or recipient. Authorised operators are responsible for the correctness of the submitted information.

Excise taxation system EMCS

You can submit messages to EMCS only through direct message exchange.

Åland tax border system ALA

You can submit messages to ALA only through direct message exchange.

You need to be a tax border customer in order to submit recapitulative statements to ALA for goods that cross the tax border between mainland Finland and the Åland Islands.

Intra-Community trade statistics system Intrastat

Messages for Intra-Community trade statistics can be sent as an XML-message through the direct message exchange or as an EDIFACT- statistics message through a telecommunications operator. The EDIFACT message service will no longer be available to new customers as of 1 January 2017.

Further information on the declaration modes of intra-Community trade is available on the Customs website.

C. Company's contact person for message exchange

Your company should point out a primary and secondary contact person for each system whom Customs can contact with regard to matters involving message exchange, and provide the contact details of these persons.

D. Contact details for IT enquiries**Person responsible for data communications matters**

This person is designated to be responsible for the IT and testing phase matters within the company, and for the acquisition and maintenance of the server certificate for the data security related to message exchange.

Name of software supplier

In this field, you enter the name and contact person of the software supplier who delivered the customs clearance software for your company. "Software supplier" refers to a company selling system-specific software required for message exchange with Customs. The software solutions are based on message definitions set out by Customs. The software suppliers must test their software with Customs.

If a company applying for registration does not use a separate software supplier, but instead creates its own message exchange software, the company's name and its contact person's information are to be provided.

If your company hires several suppliers to create software to be used in Customs' systems, you should provide the names of the suppliers for each system.

Name and contact details of data communications operator

This information is given if the company uses a data traffic operator for submitting messages. Only companies that are approved by Customs and whose line of business includes message exchange and conversion services can act as data communications operators. If a company uses several data communications operators for interactions with Customs' systems, you should give the name of the operator for each system.

Implementer of direct message exchange functions

Here you should give the name of the company which is to create the direct message exchange interface, if it is not a software supplier and if your company does not use a service provider.

E. Additional information related to direct message exchange

Both the message declarant and the service provider are to apply for registration for direct message exchange and complete the appropriate customer testing.

E.1. Activity of the applicant

- 1) The company acts alone as a direct message declarant without a particular service provider. The company's system creates the system-specific messages (for example AREX) according to the specifications set out by Customs, signs them with an XML signature and transmits them via a direct message interface.
- 2) The company acts as a direct message declarant, but uses a service provider that creates, signs and transmits the XML messages to be sent to Customs. The company operates as a direct message declarant and does not produce the system-specific messages according to the specifications set out by Customs, but provides the service provider with the data required for building the messages.
- 3) The company acts as a service provider and creates the system-specific messages (e.g. AREX) according to the specifications set out by Customs, signs them with an XML signature and transmits them via a direct message interface on behalf of other companies.

E. 2. Service provider for the applicant

This field is left empty if the applicant does not use a service provider, i.e. is an operator described in option 1 under section E, or is itself a service provider (option 3 under section E.1.).

E. 3. Information on businesses to whom the company provides services

You should enter at least one customer to whom your company provides services (a customer who creates and/or submits messages on behalf of another company to Customs' direct message interface).

The applicant does not need to update the list of declarants by making a new application even if the customers of the service provider change.

This field is left empty if the company is not a service provider.

E. 4. The company starts using the Message Notification Service for direct message exchange

Direct message exchange requires the company to implement the search functionality DownloadList in its system so that it will be informed of any messages waiting for retrieval.

The company can also start using the Message Notification Service which immediately sends a notification to the customer's system when there are messages to be retrieved. This requires for the customer's system to have the same function. The customer provides the URL (https://...) where Customs is to send message notifications. Detailed information on the implementation is available in the guidebook "Message exchange with Finnish Customs: Technical guidebook".

E.5. Compliance with terms of use

With their signature, the applicant confirms having read the terms of use in appendix 1 and committing to complying with them.

F. Additional information concerning AREX

The company's activities relating to entry and exit

Here you select the modes of transport that your company uses.

Enter what messages your company is going to submit to AREX. More information on messages to be submitted is available on the Finnish Customs website at http://www.tulli.fi/fi/yrityksille/sahkoinenasiointi/edi/Sanomakuvaukset/AREX/AREX_sanomakuvaukset/index.jsp.

Enter the most common border crossing points used by your company, for example, for rail or road transports from Russia or for vehicles arriving from another member state.

An estimate is required on how many AREX declarations your company is going to submit each month.

Temporary storage authorisation number(s) can be found in the temporary storage authorisation granted by Customs.

Additional information concerning AREX

Transport operators: If the submitter of an amended entry summary declaration (IE313) is not the transport operator stated in the declaration, the transport operator that uses message exchange may, if it so wishes, receive an 'Entry Summary Declaration Amendment Acceptance' message (IE304). The transport company is to state under "Additional information" that it wishes to receive IE304 messages, even if it has not sent an amended entry summary declaration (IE313).

If the company wishes to act as a technical sender for the AREX system, it is to state this under the section for system-specific additional information.

A technical sender approved by Customs may submit messages to Customs on behalf of a representative, transport operator or a person responsible for lodging summary declarations or unloading reports. The technical sender is not allowed to make any changes in the data content of the message. Customs will always send response messages to the technical sender, who is obliged to pass the messages on to the trader on whose behalf the declaration was submitted. In order to act as a technical sender, a separate authorisation from Customs is required.

G. Additional information concerning EMCS

Additional data on the company

Excise duty authorisation granted to your company

Select the valid authorisation types of the company.

Excisable products

Select the product for which excise duty is collected.

Types of movement of excise goods under suspension of duty

Tick the boxes for the company's types of movement.

Messages that the company intends to use in the EMCS system

Tick the boxes for the messages that the company intends to use. More information on messages to be selected is available in Finnish on the Customs website at

http://www.tulli.fi/fi/yrityksille/sahkoinenasiointi/edi/Sanomakuvaukset/EMCS/EMCS_sanomakuvaukset/index.jsp.

H. EORI contact details

If an applicant company based in Finland or outside the EU does not yet have an EORI number, it can be applied for in connection with submitting this message exchange application. In such cases, you should fill out the information under section H.

EORI contact person

An EORI registration applicant is to assign a person in their organisation who can be in contact with Customs in EORI matters when necessary. Enter the name, phone number and e-mail address of the contact person.

Consent for publication of EORI data

A business or entity applying for EORI registration may choose whether they agree to their EORI data in the application being disclosed on the Commission's Europa website.

As of 1 July 2009, businesses or entities that have consented to the disclosure of their EORI data have been able to check their own details with their EORI numbers by accessing the public service on the Europa website:

http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/common/databases/index_en.htm.

Date and year of incorporation

The date and year of incorporation of the business or entity applying for EORI registration shall be entered in this field using the "dd/mm/yyyy" format.

Principal economic activity code (according to the NACE economic activity classification)

Here you enter the company's main line of business, i. e. the activity the company is mainly involved in. The main activity must be entered as a 4-digit code from the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE). A list of NACE economic activity codes can be found on the European Commission's Europa website at:

http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/index/nace_all.html.

TIR holder ID

The TIR ID is an identification number which specifies a TIR Carnet. You should enter the ID if the applicant is a TIR holder.

DUNS number

The DUNS number is a nine-digit ID given to companies registered in the worldwide D&B (Dun and Bradstreet) database.

I. Additional information

Here you can provide information you consider important for the application process or for customer testing. If you need more space to complete any part of the application form, you can use this space to add the relevant information.

J. Appendices

Appendix 1 (Terms of use for direct message exchange) must always be enclosed with the application when it concerns direct message exchange.

K. Signature

The form is signed by the person authorised to sign for the applicant company.

Please submit your enquiries and the information on any changes which can affect registration for direct message exchange to:

AREX, ELEX, EMCS, ITU, INTRASTAT, ALA

Electronic Customs Clearance Centre, EDI authorisations

tel. +358 (0) 295 5207

E-mail: EDI-luvat@tulli.fi

Transit

Authorisation Centre (LUKE)

tel. +358 (0) 295 5200 (exchange)

E-mail: lupakeskus@tulli.fi

Further information

Further information on message exchange is available on the Customs website in the guidebooks "Message exchange with Finnish Customs: Introduction to message exchange with Finnish Customs", "Message exchange with Finnish Customs: Technical guidebook" and in the system-specific message descriptions and customer bulletins.