

END-USE

GUIDELINES FOR

TRADERS

October, 2024

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 What is “end-use”?

End-use is a Customs procedure whereby goods entered for free circulation in the European Union (EU) may be given favourable tariff treatment or relief at a reduced or zero rate of duty on condition they are put to a prescribed use.

1.2 How does end-use work?

To obtain end-use relief, the importer must be the holder of an authorisation. The goods must be put to a prescribed use within a certain period of time. The importer must also keep records on the goods and their treatment. If the goods are not put to the prescribed end-use, duty will be due.

The relief applies to customs duty only and does not extend to any Anti-Dumping Duty, Value-Added Tax or Excise Duty that may be payable. However, the trader can apply a VAT relief when using his end use authorisation if the goods are to be used in territorial waters in connection with drilling or production platforms AIS (Please see AIS relief codes).

1.3 EU legislation

The legal basis for the end-use regime is set out in:

- Council Regulation (EC) No. 952/2013 (Union Customs Code)
- Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2015/2447 (Implementing Regulation)
- Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2015/2446 (Delegated Regulation).

1.4 What goods qualify for end-use relief?

- **Goods eligible for end-use identified by their tariff classification**

There is provision in the Tariff for suspension of duties on certain goods. The suspension of the duties is dependent on the end-use of the goods.

For example, the following regulations make the granting of the suspensive rate subject to end-use control:

- **Council Regulation (EU) No 1344/2011 of 19 December 2011** - suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff
- **Council Regulation (EU) No 3050/95 of 22 December 1995** - temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on a number of products intended for the construction, maintenance and repair of aircraft.
- **Products intended for aircraft, ships, boats and for drilling platforms as set out in Part I, Section II of the Combined Nomenclature**
A listing of tariff headings or codes for these products is given each year in the Combined Nomenclature.
- **Weapons and military equipment certified by a competent authority**
Provision is made under Council Regulation No. 150/2003 to suspend import duties on a number of military weapons and equipment on condition that the goods are being used by, or on behalf of, the military forces of a Member State for:
 - the defence of the Member State
 - international peacekeeping
 or
 - support operations.

Duty is suspended for importation of goods under this regulation subject to the application of end-use controls and the issue of the appropriate certificate by the competent authority. In Ireland the competent authority is the Department of Defence.

Businesses importing such goods on behalf of the Department of Defence must:

- be authorised for end-use, and
- hold the appropriate certificate issued by that Department (or by the equivalent competent authority in another Member State) covering the goods they wish to import.

Appendix I contains a list of 4-digit Tariff headings covering weapons and military equipment on which import duties are suspended.

1.5 Who can apply for end-use relief?

- (i) who themselves put the goods to the prescribed End-use; or
- (ii) to arrange to transfer the obligation as referred to in point (i) under TORO (Transfer of Rights and Obligations) to another person under the conditions laid down by the customs authorities (see point on Toro 3.1)

1.6 Exclusions from relief

Goods **NOT** in Free Circulation are excluded from relief. The provisions of this guide do not apply to goods on entry to another customs procedure, such as inward processing or warehousing. However, when these goods are eventually placed in free circulation end-use relief may be claimed.

2 AUTHORISATION

You must be authorised to use the end-use procedure.

2.1 Types of end-use authorisations

There are three main types of end-use authorisation:

- An authorisation covering one Member State which allows the holder to avail of end-use in Ireland only.
- An authorisation covering more than one Member State - this type of authorisation will allow the trader to benefit from the end-use provisions in more than one Member State. An application for such an authorisation is generally submitted in the Member State where the applicant's main accounts are held. A company whose main accounts are held in Ireland should apply to Revenue to have another Member State or states included in their Irish authorisation. In the same way a company whose accounts are held in another Member State should apply to the customs authorities in the other Member State to have Ireland included in their authorisation.
- An application for an authorisation based on a customs declaration (simplified authorisation). This type of authorisation is suitable for once-off importations.

Applications for simplified authorisations are dealt with by the Revenue official at the point of importation. All other applications for authorisations to import goods under end-use should be made by using the [EU Customs Decision System](#) on the Revenue website.

2.2 Issue of an authorisation

Before an authorisation can be granted the following conditions must be met:

- Applicants must be able to satisfy Revenue that:
 - they are in a position to operate the end-use regime correctly (including, where applicable, the provisions for the transfer of goods)
 - the prescribed end-use can be complied with, and
 - the regime will not be abused to avoid payment of duty.
- Applicants must undertake to assign the goods to the prescribed end-use or to transfer them to another operator and to provide the required evidence of their assignment or transfer.
- Revenue supervision of the goods must be assured.
- Any administrative burden must not outweigh the economic benefits of the relief.
- The applicant must maintain adequate and auditable records.
- The applicant must submit a bill of discharge.
- A guarantee must be provided.
- Applicants must undertake to notify Revenue of any change of circumstances or other factors, which may affect the authorisation.
- A set of conditions relating to the use of the authorisation will have to be signed by the Secretary or Managing Director in the case of a limited company, or by the owner or partner in the case of other traders.

2.3 Application for an authorisation based on a customs declaration (simplified authorisation)

You can apply for a simplified authorisation where eligible goods are being imported for a particular end-use:

- On a one-off basis, for example to facilitate those who are not regular importers, or

In addition, the following general conditions apply to the issue of a simplified authorisation:

- Clearance for free circulation and assigning of the goods to the prescribed end-use must be carried out solely within Ireland.
- The applicant concerned must use a customs declaration at importation.
- The applicant in question must accept sole responsibility for assigning the goods to the prescribed end-use i.e. there must be no transfers or onward selling of the goods to others.
- The applicant must meet all the other conditions laid down by Revenue in relation to the issue of an authorisation.

Applications for simplified authorisation arrangements are made at the point of import. :

Acceptance of the entry declaration constitutes the Revenue authorisation in such cases.

Applications for such Simplified Authorisation arrangements are made at point of import. The H1 8f declaration constitutes an application for simplified end-use.

The following procedure codes should be entered on the declaration

- DE 1/10 – code 4400
- DE 2/2 - code 00100
- DE 3/39 - Details of the importer

8F will require the following information:

Location of Goods, Customs Office(s) of Discharge, Supervising Customs Office, Rate of Yield Processed Products, Identification of Goods and Economic Conditions.

Duty is required on deposit and a refund can be claimed on AIS once the goods have been put to the end use.

2.4 Retrospective authorisation

A retrospective authorisation may only be issued in exceptional circumstances. Traders must submit details of these circumstances, which must be examined by Revenue before any retrospection can be considered. The period of retrospection, either for a new authorisation or amendment to an existing authorisation, may not extend beyond one year before the date that the application for retrospection was accepted.

Retrospective authorisations are only possible where all the following conditions are met:

- (a) There is a proven economic need.
- (b) The application is not related to attempted deception.
- (c) the applicant has proven, on the basis of accounts or records, that:
 - all the requirements of the procedure are met
 - where appropriate, the goods can be identified for the period involvedand
 - such accounts or records allow the procedure to be controlled.
- (d) All the formalities necessary to regularise the situation of the goods can be carried out, including, where necessary, the invalidation of the customs declarations concerned.
- (e) No authorisation with retroactive effect has been granted to the applicant within three years of the date on which the application was accepted.
- (f) An examination of the economic conditions is not required (except where an application concerns renewal of an authorisation for the same kind of operation and goods – see point (h)).

- (g) The application does not concern the operation of storage facilities for the customs warehousing of goods.
- (h) Where an application concerns renewal of an authorisation for the same kind of operation and goods, the application is submitted within three years of expiry of the original authorisation.

With regard to point (e) retrospection will only be allowed once for the same procedure, for example, if a trader applies for an IP and an end-use procedure the 3 year period will apply to each of the applications.

All requests for retrospective authorisation should be made to Authorisations and Reliefs Unit, and will be referred to the relevant National Division for recommendation.

If retrospection is allowed, it will be necessary for the trader to amend the relevant customs declarations for the retrospection period as the goods in question will have been imported originally with full duty paid.

2.5 Guarantee

An authorisation will not issue until an appropriate guarantee has been provided. There are two Guarantee options as follows:

- **An Individual Guarantee** - covers an individual customs declaration or operation.
- **A Comprehensive Guarantee** - covers all customs declarations entered to the procedure.

Therefore, while in theory, there are two options, for a special procedure the most feasible option is the comprehensive guarantee. The operator must apply, and be authorised, for comprehensive guarantee. The guarantee may take the form of either a cash deposit or a guarantee of undertaking from a surety provider. You will find information about comprehensive guarantees in [Comprehensive guarantee and guarantee waivers](#) on the Revenue website.

We suggest that an application for a comprehensive guarantee should be submitted at the same time as the application for end-use so that the Revenue assessment can be carried out simultaneously.

2.6 Validity

Authorisations can be valid for a period of up to five years from the date of acceptance of the application. The validity period is at the discretion of Revenue.

2.7 Rate of yield

This term is used to express the quantity of manufactured or processed products obtained from a given quantity of imported goods. The expected rate of yield should be specified on the application. It is important that the rate of yield is accurate. If the rate of yield is not known at the time of application and production records are to be used to determine the rate of yield, the application should be noted to this effect.

Where more than one product is obtained from the approved processing operation the rate of yield should be given (as far as possible) for each distinguishable product resulting from the process.

If the rate of yield, which has been entered on the application form and on the authorisation, subsequently changes, the applicant must immediately notify Revenue.

3 ENTRY OF GOODS TO END-USE

When traders are entering goods to the End-use procedure, they should complete the H1 declaration as follows:

- DE 1/10 - Procedure Code 4400
- DE 2/3 -End Use Authorisation number
- DE 3/39 -Holder of the Authorisation

3.1 Movement of goods under end-use.

Movement of goods may take place between different places in the customs territory of the Union. This is done by transferring the rights and obligations of the holder of the authorisation to assign the goods to their end-use, to an operator who will then be responsible for assigning the goods to their end-use. All operators receiving end-use goods must be set out in the authorisation in advance of any movement.

The records of the authorisation holder must show the following information:

- Name and address and EORI number of the operator to whom the goods are to be transferred and who will then assign the goods to their end-use
- Dates and details of that operator's assignment of the goods to their end-use
- TORO (Transfer of Rights and Obligations) form indicating that the goods are transferring under the end-use procedure
- TORO form from that operator confirming receipt of the goods.

TORO (Transfer of Rights and Obligations)

TORO is how the holder of the authorisation for end-use can transfer goods to another operator for them to be put to their end-use.

The holder of the authorisation for end-use must apply for TORO for any operators to whom they wish to transfer the goods in advance of any transfer. This application should be made to Authorisations and Reliefs Unit, Customs Division, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary. The application can be submitted in paper format or electronically (email) and must contain all details of the transferees - EORI number, name and address. If the transferee is in another Member State, then these details will be sent by Revenue to the Customs Authorities of that Member State for approval before any transfer can be done.

The transferee does not need to have an authorisation for end-use as the transferor is transferring his rights and obligations for putting the goods to their end-use to them. They must, however, keep records of the time in which the goods were put to their end-use and inform the transferor of the discharge of the goods.

The holder of the authorisation is responsible for the bill of discharge which must contain all information about the goods transferred. They are also responsible for making sure the period for discharge of the goods is adhered to by the transferee. The guarantee for the end-use procedure remains the responsibility of the holder of the authorisation and cannot be transferred. Therefore, it is imperative that the holder of the authorisation ensures that any operators receiving goods from them can comply fully with the procedure for end-use.

The TORO form must be used for all consignments and is in Appendix II. Copies must be kept by both the transferor and the transferee for their records.

4. OBLIGATIONS OF AUTHORISATION HOLDERS

4.1 Revenue supervision

If goods under end-use control cannot be put to the prescribed end-use because of their condition or because of some other valid reason the holder may:

- Export them from the EU,
- or
- Abandon them to the exchequer.

4.2 Period for discharge

The period for discharge is from the time the goods are entered to the procedure until they have been put to the prescribed end-use. The period for discharge will be determined by the National Division based on the trader's requirements.

This period cannot include time when the goods are in storage. Where goods are being held in storage rather than being put to end-use then authorisation for storage must be considered.

Where the period for discharge cannot be met for reasons inherent in the working or processing of the goods, an application to extend this period may be applied for.

Discharge of the procedure by putting the goods to the end-use or by exporting them, releases the suspended duty liability.

4.3 Records

Records must be kept in sufficient detail to enable Revenue to verify that the goods are put to the prescribed end-use.

These records must be available for inspection by Revenue and must be retained for a period of three calendar years after the end of the year in which the goods have ceased to be subject to Revenue end-use control.

4.4 Bill of discharge

A bill of discharge for the end-use procedure must be drawn up by the holder and must be lodged in the National Division within the timeframe agreed within the authorisation. The National Division, in consultation with Authorisations and Reliefs Unit, may extend these periods in special circumstances.

On receipt of the bill of discharge, the National Division should examine the details without delay and any liability established should be entered into the accounts within 14 days from receipt of the bill of discharge.

The bill of discharge shall contain at least the following details:

- Authorisation reference number
- Period for discharge
- Quantity of each type of import goods in respect of which discharge, repayment or remission is claimed
- CN code of the import goods
- Customs value and the rate of import duties to which the goods placed under the special procedure are liable (this is the actual value declared on the customs declaration, not a standard or any other form of value used by the company)
- Particulars of the customs declarations entering the import goods to end-use

- The established rate of yield
- (If relevant) type and quantity of the processed product
- (If relevant) CN code and the value of the processed product
- The customs approved treatment or use assigned to the processed products as well as particulars of the relevant declarations or other documents used to discharge the goods or products from end-use
- Amount of customs duty to be paid on any import goods released for free circulation
- Quantities and values from the authorisation used and balance carried forward to next period for discharge.

Failure to return bills of discharge or to return them on time may be considered a non-compliance issue and may incur a liability.

4.5 Control measures

Apart from inspection of records, Revenue may carry out other control measures such as examination of goods in the course of processing, checking of goods in storage, etc., to verify compliance with the end-use conditions.

In the case of parts destined for end-use in the repair, maintenance, etc. of aircraft or sea vessels, Revenue may examine engineers' and mechanics' reports of work done as well as inspecting the aircraft or vessel in which the goods are used.

4.6 Satisfying end-use conditions

Goods are considered to have been assigned to the end-use in question when:

- In the case of goods which can be used **only once**, they have been assigned to the prescribed end-use within the time limits laid down in the authorisation.
- In the case of goods which may be put to **repeated use**, two years after they are first assigned to the prescribed end-use in accordance with the time limits laid down. The date of such first assignment is to be entered in the company records.

In certain cases end-use is deemed to be completed in the following circumstances:

- Certain vehicle parts for assembly are considered to have been assigned to end-use when assembly of the vehicle is complete and the vehicle has left the assembly line.
- Goods (referred to in Part 1, Section II B of the Combined Nomenclature) intended for certain classes of aircraft for the purposes of their construction, maintenance, conversion or equipping are considered to have been assigned to that end-use when the aircraft is transferred to a person other than the holder of the authorisation or again made available to its owner, inter alia, following maintenance, repair or conversion.
- Goods (referred to in Part 1, Section II A of the Combined Nomenclature) intended for certain classes of vessel or for drilling or production platforms for the purposes of their construction, repair, maintenance, conversion, fitting or equipping are considered to have been assigned to that end-use when the vessel or drilling platform is transferred to a person other than the holder of the authorisation or again made available to its owner, inter alia, following maintenance, repair or conversion.
- Goods (referred to in Part 1, Section II A of the Combined Nomenclature) supplied directly on board a vessel for the purposes of equipping it are considered to have been put to the end-use at the time of such supply (see note above).

4.7 Waste and scrap

Waste and scrap which result from the working or processing of goods according to the prescribed end-use and losses due to natural wastage shall be considered as goods assigned to the prescribed end-use.

Waste and scrap resulting from the destruction of goods placed under the end-use procedure shall be deemed to be placed under the customs warehousing procedure.

5. EQUIVALENCE

Equivalence is a new facility in the end use procedure that allows holders to use identical Union goods in place of non-Union goods for end use.

The equivalent goods must fall within the same subheading of the Common Customs Tariff, be of the same commercial quality and have the same technical characteristics as the non-Union goods. Equivalent goods may be at a more advanced stage of manufacture than the non-Union goods provided the essential part of the processing is carried out by or on behalf of the trader. Equivalence can be granted either for specific products or for all products covered by an authorisation. Application for equivalence can be made to Authorisation and Relief Unit.

6. CASES WHERE THE END-USE PROCEDURE IS NOT NECESSARY

The end-use procedure shall not apply in cases where civil aircraft falling under subheadings 8802 11, 8802 12, 8802 20, 8802 30, 8802 40 have been duly entered on a register of a Member State or a third country in accordance with the Convention on International Civil Aviation dated 7 December 1944 and reference is made in the customs declaration for release for free circulation to the relevant certificate of registration.

If an aircraft falling under the above subheadings is presented to Customs for clearance, D.E. 2/3 of the H1 declaration must show the code C072 followed by the aircraft registration certificate number. This registration certificate must be presented to Customs before the aircraft can be released.

7. FURTHER INFORMATION

Any further information may be obtained from Authorisations and Reliefs Unit ,
Government Offices, St. Conlon's Road, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary Revcep@revenue.ie

Appendix I - Tariff headings for weapons and military equipment on which import duties are suspended

(COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) NO. 150/2003)

| | |
|------|------|
| 2804 | 8527 |
| 2825 | 8528 |
| 3601 | 8531 |
| 3602 | 8535 |
| 3603 | 8536 |
| 3604 | 8539 |
| 3606 | 8543 |
| 3701 | 8544 |
| 3702 | 8701 |
| 3703 | 8703 |
| 3705 | 8704 |
| 3707 | 8705 |
| 3824 | 8709 |
| 3926 | 8710 |
| 4202 | 8711 |
| 4911 | 8716 |
| 5608 | 8801 |
| 6116 | 8802 |
| 6210 | 8804 |
| 6211 | 8805 |
| 6217 | 8901 |
| 6305 | 8903 |
| 6307 | 8906 |
| 6506 | 8907 |
| 7308 | 9004 |
| 7311 | 9005 |
| 7314 | 9006 |
| 7326 | 9008 |
| 7610 | 9013 |
| 8413 | 9014 |
| 8414 | 9015 |
| 8415 | 9020 |
| 8418 | 9022 |
| 8419 | 9025 |
| 8421 | 9027 |

| | |
|------|------|
| 8424 | 9030 |
| 8427 | 9031 |
| 8472 | 9302 |
| 8479 | 9303 |
| 8502 | 9304 |
| 8516 | 9306 |
| 8518 | 9307 |
| 8521 | 9404 |
| 8525 | 9406 |
| 8526 | |

**LIST OF WEAPONS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT WITH A CONVENTIONAL RATE OF DUTY
'FREE' FOR WHICH IMPORT PROCEDURES OF ARTICLE 3 CAN BE APPLIED**

- 4901
- 8426
- 8428
- 8429
- 8430
- 8470
- 8471
- 8517
- 8524
- 9018
- 9019
- 9021
- 9026
- 9301

Appendix II- Transfer of Rights and Obligations (TORO) Form

| Transfer of rights and obligations (Toro) | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Customs Authorities have Authorised TORO on | Transferor: Authorisation number: Date: |
| Persons and supervising customs office(s) concerned | | |
| 2. | EORI number or name and address of transferor | |
| 3. | EORI number or name and address of transferee | |
| 4. | Supervising Customs Office of the transferor | |
| 5. | Supervising Customs Office of the transferee | |
| Details of goods which are subject to TORO | | |
| 6. | MRN of customs declaration placing the goods under the special procedure | |
| 7. | TARIC code | |
| 8. | Packages and description | |
| 9. | Marks and numbers of goods | |
| 10. | Gross Mass KG | |
| 11. | Net Mass KG | |
| 12. | Supplementary units, if applicable | |
| 13. | Date by which the special procedure must be discharged | |

| Transfer of rights and obligations (Toro) | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| 14. | Period within which the transferee has to provide the transferor about the discharge of the special procedure | |
| 15. | Date and time of TORO | |
| For completion by transferee | | |
| 16. | Date on which the special procedure was discharged | |
| 17. | Date on which the transferor was informed about the discharge of the special procedure. | |
| 18. | Confirmation of the transferee that the transferor was informed about the discharge of the special procedure. | Place & Date: Signature: |
| 19. | Where applicable, additional information (e.g. guarantee, rate of yield) | |
| For completion by the transferor | | |
| 20. | Confirmation that the information provided by the transferee is correct | Place & date: Signature: |