
Economic Commission for Europe

Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

Technical Implementation Body

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Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda

eTIR conceptual, functional and technical documentation

Version 4.3

Study on the usage of the equipment size and type data and on the code lists used

Note by the secretariat

I. Introduction and mandate

1. At its fifth session, TIB requested the secretariat and the IRU to present a study on code list CL01 at its next session, containing, inter alia, the results of a survey among TIR customs focal points on the usage of the equipment size and type data element and on the code list used as well as the results of consultations with relevant stakeholders.

II. Survey

A. Participation

2. TIR focal points from the following 18 countries have responded to the survey reproduced in Annex: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, France, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland and Türkiye.

B. Results

3. The results of the survey are presented in Table 1.

Table 1 – Results of the survey (number of respondents)

<i>Question 1¹</i>	<i>Question 2²</i>			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Textual</i>	<i>UN/EDIFACT 8155</i>	<i>ISO 6346</i>
7	3	1	1	3

4. The following clarifications were provided by the countries that responded “other”:
- 2 x 7 photos of the vehicle are attached to the approval.
 - Code of the type of vehicle (arriving, departing, crossing the border) from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN EEC) recommendation Nr. 28.
 - National coding

5. Furthermore, some countries indicated that, while the type and size of the transport equipment was not required, they required information regarding the mode of transport or an indicator indicating of the transport was containerized. One respondent also indicated that his country is only asking for the type of the transport equipment and not the size. Finally, one country indicated that “from the implementation of NCTS P5, the following information must be provided in data element 19 07 063 000 “Container identification number” in accordance with the Common Transit Convention, Appendix IIIa, Annex A1a:

19 07 063 000 Container identification number

Marks (letters and/or numbers) which identify the container.

For modes of transport other than air, a container is a special box to carry freight, strengthened and stackable and allowing horizontal or vertical transfers.

In the air mode, containers are special boxes to carry freight, strengthened and allowing horizontal or vertical transfers.

In the context of this data element, the swap bodies and semi-trailers used for road and rail transport shall be considered as containers.

If applicable, for containers covered by the standard ISO 6346, the identifier (prefix) allocated by the International Bureau of Containers and Intermodal Transport (BIC) shall also be provided in addition to the container identification number.

For swap bodies and semi-trailers, the ILU (Intermodal Loading Units) code as introduced by the European EN 13044 standard shall be used.

III. Consultations

A. Bureau International des Containers

6. The Bureau International des Containers (BIC) confirmed that ISO 6346 is the only size and type code list used for containers and they have not come across any joint use of the equipment size and type segment.

¹ Does your administration require information on the size and type of transport equipment (e.g containers, trucks, trailers) used for transit?

² If yes, how can the information be provided?

B. United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business

7. The secretariat of the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) forwarded the question to some of their experts, who were of the view that, while two entities were responsible for code lists UN/EDIFACT and ISO 6346, code “clashes”, i.e. the same code being used in both code lists, will not happen. However, they could not provide information, e.g. practical examples, on how both code lists are used in conjunction and how the overlap between both code lists is dealt with.

IV. Preliminary consideration by the secretariat

8. Almost half of the respondents to the survey indicate that they require, in one form or another, the size and type of the transport equipment, which seems to be a sufficient reason for keeping this data element in eTIR messages.

9. The results of the survey show that, at the moment, neither code lists are much used. However, in view of the information provided by BIC, would the TIR and eTIR procedure be increasingly used for intermodal containerized transport, the possibility to use ISO 6346 codes could greatly facilitate the exchange of information between modes of transport. Keeping in mind that the ISO 6346 code list does not have codes for road-based transport equipment, such as trailers, the usage of code list UN/EDIFACT 8155 remains essential.

10. In case of a combined usage of both code lists, while the type and size of some containers could be identified using either of the code lists, no single code is used in both code lists, thus ensuring that there would be no risk of confusion.

11. To further reduce any risk of confusion, a rule could be added to ensure that the ISO 6346 codes should be used for containers and the UN/EDIFACT 8155 codes should be used for all other transport equipment.

V. Considerations by TIB

12. TIB might wish to consider the information above and, possibly, instruct the secretariat on how to proceed further with regard to code list CL01.

Annex

Survey sent to TIR focal points on 24 November 2023

(Русская и французская версии ниже / Versions russe et française ci-dessous / Russian and French versions below)

Dear TIR focal points,

At its fifth session, the Technical Implementation Body (TIB) requested the secretariat to conduct a survey among TIR customs focal points on the usage of the equipment size and type data and on the code lists used.

Version 4.3 of the eTIR specifications currently refer to code list UN/EDIFACT 8155 for the codes related to the size and type of transport equipment used for TIR transports. However, it was brought to the attention of TIB that UN/EDIFACT 8155 code list also refers to the possibility to use of the ISO 6346 code list (i.e. *Note: May use codes specified in ISO 6346 for seagoing containers*).

Consequently, in order to possibly align the eTIR specifications to the current practice in Customs administrations, could you please answer the following questions at your earliest convenience, but not later than 15 December 2023.

1. Does your administration require information on the size and type of transport equipment (e.g containers, trucks, trailers) used for transit?
 - Yes
 - No

2. If yes, how can the information be provided:
 - Textual description
 - Using a code from the UN/EDIFACT 8155 code list
 - Using a code from the ISO 6346 code list
 - Other, please specify

Many thanks in advance.

Kind regards
André

UN/EDIFACT 8155 : <https://service.unece.org/trade/untdid/d04a/tred/tred8155.htm>
ISO 6346 : https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_6346

Chers points focaux TIR,

À sa cinquième session, l'Organe de mise en œuvre technique (TIB) a demandé au secrétariat de mener une enquête auprès des points focaux douaniers TIR sur l'utilisation des données relatives à la taille et le type des équipements ainsi que sur les listes de codes utilisées.

La version 4.3 des spécifications eTIR fait actuellement référence à la liste de codes UN/EDIFACT 8155 pour les codes liés à la taille et au type d'équipements de transport utilisés pour les transports TIR. Cependant, il a été porté à l'attention du TIB que la liste de codes UN/EDIFACT 8155 fait également référence à la possibilité d'utiliser la liste de codes ISO 6346 (i.e. *Note : peut utiliser les codes spécifiés dans l'ISO 6346 pour les conteneurs maritimes*).

Par conséquent, afin d'éventuellement aligner les spécifications eTIR sur la pratique actuelle des administrations douanières, pourriez-vous répondre aux questions suivantes dans les meilleurs délais, mais au plus tard le 15 décembre 2023.

1. Votre administration a-t-elle besoin d'informations sur la taille et le type d'équipement de transport (par exemple conteneurs, camions, remorques) utilisés pour le transit ?

- ___ Oui
- ___ Non

2. Si oui, comment les informations peuvent-elles être fournies :

- ___ Description textuelle
- ___ Utiliser un code de la liste de codes UN/EDIFACT 8155
- ___ Utiliser un code de la liste de codes ISO 6346
- ___ Autre, veuillez préciser

Merci d'avance.

Cordialement

André

ONU/EDIFACT 8155 : <https://service.unece.org/trade/untdid/d04a/tred/tred8155.htm>

ISO 6346 : https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_6346

Уважаемые координаторы МДП!

На своей пятой сессии Технического органа по осуществлению (ТОО) поручил секретариату провести среди таможенных координаторов МДП опрос по использованию данных о размерах и типах оборудования, а также об используемых списках кодов.

Версия 4.3 спецификаций eTIR в настоящее время относится к перечню кодов UN/EDIFACT 8155, где указаны коды, относящиеся к размеру и типу транспортного оборудования, используемого для перевозки МДП. Однако до сведения ТОО было доведено, что список кодов UN/EDIFACT 8155 также указывает на возможность использования списка кодов ISO 6346 (т.е. *Примечание: для морских контейнеров можно использовать коды, указанные в ISO 6346*).

Следовательно, чтобы возможно привести спецификации eTIR в соответствие с текущей практикой таможенных администраций, не могли бы вы ответить на следующие вопросы при первой же возможности, но не позднее 15 декабря 2023 года.

1. Требуется ли вашей администрации информация о размере и типе транспортного оборудования (например, контейнеров, грузовиков, прицепов), используемого для транзита?

- ___ да
- ___ Нет

2. Если да, то как можно предоставить информацию:

- ___ Текстовое описание
- ___ Использование кода из списка кодов UN/EDIFACT 8155.
- ___ Использование кода из списка кодов ISO 6346.
- ___ Другое, укажите

Спасибо заранее.

С уважением

Андре
