

CUSTOMS INFORMATION PAPER (08)24

Economic Operator Registration and Identification (EORI) Scheme

Who should read:	JCCC members and all organisations involved with International Trade
What is it about:	The Economic Operator Registration and Identification (EORI) Scheme
When effective:	From 1 July 2009
Extant until	Further notice

1. Background

The measures to enhance security introduced by The Security Amendment (Council Regulation 648/2005) and its Implementing Provisions, provide for:

- the analysis and electronic exchange of risk information between customs authorities and the Commission under a common risk management framework
- the provision to the customs authorities of pre-arrival and pre-departure information on all goods entering or leaving the customs territory of the Community
- the granting of the status of Authorised Economic Operator to reliable traders

The implementation of the above measures would be more effective if persons concerned could be identified by reference to a common number unique to each person. The EU Commission and Member States customs authorities are therefore finalising legislation for the introduction of EORI.

It should be stressed that the EORI legislation has not yet been adopted and therefore could be subject to further amendment.

2. Purpose

The purpose of the EORI scheme is to have one unique identification number for each Economic Operator that should be recognised by all EU customs authorities. Such an identification number will serve as a common reference for the identification of economic operators, or persons, in their relations with the customs authorities of the Community, and for the exchange of information between these authorities and where appropriate, between customs authorities and other government departments and agencies.

3. Date of Implementation

1st July 2009

4. Is it mandatory?

If you are approved, or wish to be approved, as an Authorised Economic Operator (AEO), and/or are required to provide pre arrival/pre departure information, or involved in the import, export or movement of goods under a transit procedure you will need an EORI number.

5. Who will be Registered?

Economic operators, and persons, involved in customs related activities involving one or more Member States will be authorised.

6. Where will an Economic Operator be Registered?

An economic operator will be registered in the Member State in which he is established for activities covered by customs legislation.

7. Application and Registration procedure

The Member State granting the number will validate the information included in the Application form and process this information in both a national and a central EU system. Data will be exchanged between Member States and the EU Commission. The intention is that limited data will be disclosed to the general public but this will only happen with the express consent of the economic operator concerned.

HMRC are devising a registration procedure and more information will be published when this has been finalised.

8. Construction of the EORI number

Where an identification number is required, the EORI number will be structured as a ISO alpha 2 digit country code of the Member State granting the number, e.g. GB, followed by a 15 digit alpha/numeric number.

9. Implementation in the UK

A project team has been set up to develop and publish guidance on the process for applying for EORI in the UK, for both HMRC and the trade.

The team will look at and draft guidance material/authorisation procedures for HMRC and the trade that covers:

- the application process, including the application form
- the registration criteria
- explanatory notes to the form

10. Further information

HMRC will be publishing a list of FAQ covering EORI on their website at EORI FAQ. As a number of issues have still to be clarified we will update the FAQ when more information has been confirmed and with details of how the UK intend to implement EORI.

If you have further questions that are not covered by this paper or the FAQ, the EORI Project Team can be contacted by email at eorl.customs&intl@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

11. Contacts

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Issued on the **15 April 2008** by the JCCC Secretary, HM Revenue and Customs, Customs & International Directorate. E Mail @ [JCCC Secretariat](mailto:JCCC_Secretariat)

If you have a question about the content of this paper please use the details provided in the 'Contacts' section. For general HMRC queries speak to the National Advice Service on 0845 010 9000 or follow this crumb trail which details how to contact us by phone, e-mail or post: HMRC home (www.hmrc.gov.uk) >Contact Us

For comprehensive guidance on international trade regulation, as well as advice on market information and business growth visit www.businesslink.gov.uk/internationaltrade.