

# JOINT CUSTOMS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE JCCC

## INFORMATION PAPER (05) 35

### Compliance of third party declarants

<b>Who should read:</b>	Exporters, freight forwarding agents, consolidators, fast parcel operators, Community Service Provider (CSP).
<b>What is it about:</b>	Findings of a comprehensive review by HMRC into the accuracy of export declarations
<b>When effective:</b>	Now

### Background

HMRC have recently completed a national review of the operation of export procedures by exporters to test compliance with export procedures and the accuracy of export declarations. In the course of this project over 1600 traders were visited and over 18,000 export declarations were examined. **85% of entries were found to be completed by agents or third parties.** A separate but associated review was also conducted to test the validity or appropriateness of the use of PR/UNREG in box 2 of the Single Administrative Document (SAD).

### Findings

The findings of these two reviews indicate significant non-compliance with requirements for the completion of export declarations. Some of the more serious shortcomings are

- 19% of declared values were incorrect
- 20% of commodity codes were incorrect
- 14% of declarations did not agree with the actual weight/packages actually exported
- 20% of all exports from the UK are declared as being for private (PR) or unregistered (UNREG) traders.

### Obligation

Exporters and their agents are reminded that under the provisions of **Art 199 of Regulation 2454/93EEC the declarant or his representative are responsible for**

- **the accuracy of the information given in the declaration**
- **the authenticity of documents attached, and**
- **compliance with all the obligations relating to the entry of the goods in question under the procedure concerned.**

Exporters and their agents are similarly reminded that the use of PR or UNREG in box 2 of the SAD **is restricted to**

PR – for private exportations where there is no commercial purpose involved, eg household effects (NB. VAT zero rating does not apply to PR goods)

UNREG – traders who are not registered for VAT in the UK, which includes traders registered in other Member States

**In all other cases a TURN must be quoted.**

### **Future action**

In the forthcoming months HMRC will be applying measures to improve the compliance of third party declarants including the application of Customs civil penalty provisions where appropriate. (See Notice 301)

### **Further information**

If you require further information on any of the above contact John Nightingale at Frontiers and International Trade. Tel: 01702 361941  
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