

# **CUSTOMER BULLETIN**

## **AREX EDI CUSTOMER TESTING**

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

The instructions in this bulletin are intended for customers of Finnish Customs who are testing the EDI messages used in the declaration system AREX. The bulletin describes the course of the testing process, from technical testing to commencing the EDI sending.

## 2 EORI CUSTOMER AUTHORISATION REQUIRED

An AREX EDI sender is required to be registered for EORI. If the business has already registered as a customs clearance customer with Finnish Customs, it will automatically have been registered as an EORI operator based on its business ID (format: FI1234567-8). If the AREX EDI sender operates as an agent on behalf of another trader responsible for submitting AREX declarations, the principal must also be registered as an EORI customer. EORI customer authorisation is required for both the EDI sender and for the principal whose cases are used as test material in the parallel testing. The validity of the EORI number can be checked from the EORI database managed by the Commission.

## 3 TEST PHASES AND THEIR SCHEDULES

After the EDI authorisation application has been processed, the Customs testing official will send the business a proposed schedule for the AREX customer testing. The AREX customer testing involves two phases: technical and parallel testing. The sooner the technical testing is completed, the more time will be allowed for the parallel testing. The time reserved for AREX customer testing usually amounts to three to five weeks depending on the type of declarations the business will lodge and the modes of transport involved. The business must commit to the agreed testing schedule. If the business does not adhere to the agreed schedule, the testing will be interrupted and a new deferred testing schedule has to be agreed upon. The aim is to arrange one free consultation visit before testing begins.

AREX EDI sender testing is business specific. If a group of companies takes part in the testing, it will be carried out separately with each company (separate business IDs). Separate testing for each company office will not be carried out. Only in cases where the offices of the company use different software for submitting AREX declarations will office-specific testing be allowed.

## 4 TECHNICAL TESTING

### 4.1 Defining the contact persons

The company's contact person for testing is the contact person for message exchange mentioned in the authorisation application, unless otherwise notified. A representative of the software supplier or service provider may assist the company in the technical testing, but cannot be in charge of the testing.

Customs will appoint a company-specific testing official who sends the material for the technical testing, checks the accuracy of the data content of the messages and the functioning of the communications connections.

#### 4.2 Address for sending the test messages

The business must have access to the use of software that can generate the required messages in accordance with the declaration standards provided by Customs. Customs will not provide the required software. The message exchange will be conducted either via an operator or via direct message exchange. The contact details of EDI operators approved by Customs can be found in appendix 1 of the guide “Message exchange with Finnish Customs: Introduction to message exchange with Finnish Customs.” The protocols X.400 and ftp/VPN are used for data transfer between the operator and Customs. Customs has no requirements for the data transfer mode used between the company and the operator. The company must in its application for the AREX EDI sender authorisation indicate the name and contact details of its chosen operator. The Customs contact person will forward the contact details and the start date of the testing to Customs’ own operator. Customs’ operator will inform the company’s operator of this in advance, and the latter will establish the connection to Customs’ X.400 test address.

More information about direct message exchange:

[http://www.tulli.fi/en/businesses/eServices/message/message\\_exchange\\_technical\\_guidebook.pdf](http://www.tulli.fi/en/businesses/eServices/message/message_exchange_technical_guidebook.pdf)

#### 4.3 The purpose and course of the technical testing

The purpose of the technical testing is to ensure that the communications are working and that the messages sent by the customer comply with Customs’ specifications. The testing aims to ascertain that the customer is able to receive all the response messages sent by Customs and understands what the messages mean.

The Customs testing official at the Electronic Customs Clearance Centre carries out the customer testing in cooperation with the customer who is applying for EDI sender status. The testing is conducted in the customer testing environment of the AREX application.

The testing official will email the company the test cases drawn up by Customs that will be used in the testing. The number of cases to be tested depends on the type of messages submitted by the customer and on the modes of transport involved. The company’s tester sends the test cases in the prescribed order in accordance with the testing schedule agreed with Customs. The testing official ensures that the communications are working and that the messages sent by the company comply with the message specifications of Customs. The testing official informs the company contact person of any errors that have occurred during the testing. The company’s tester must amend the errors.

Links to complementary information:

Message exchange with Finnish Customs: Introduction to message exchange with Finnish Customs *and* Technical guidebook

<http://www.tulli.fi/en/businesses/eServices/message/index.jsp>

AREX message specifications:

<http://www.tulli.fi/en/businesses/eServices/message/AREX/message/index.jsp>

#### 4.4 Passing the technical testing phase

The technical testing is completed when all the prescribed test cases have been carried out in a satisfactory manner, when the response messages sent by Customs have been tested and when the errors and deficiencies that have emerged during testing have been rectified. The testing official will inform the company contact person by email of the successful completion of testing and of the transition to the second stage, parallel testing. Parallel testing is conducted only in the case of summary declarations (IE315, IE344 and IE615).

## 5 PARALLEL TESTING

### 5.1 Material used in parallel testing

The business should provide the Customs testing official with proposed parallel testing material before the start of the technical testing. The parallel testing material consists of the business's transport documents used in the AREX declaration messages, e.g. bills of lading or air waybills. How many parallel test cases are required depends on the number of messages to be submitted and the number of transport modes to be used. As a rule, there should be at least three parallel test cases per each submitted message and each transport mode. The parallel test material should contain as comprehensive an account as possible of the summary declarations to be lodged by the company and any foreseeable exceptional situations that are likely to occur on a regular basis. If the number and scope of the parallel test cases are such that the tests cannot be carried out in the allotted time, the number and content of the parallel test cases can be restricted by Customs.

### 5.2 The purpose and course of the parallel testing

The purpose of the testing is to help companies send messages that are as correct as possible after they have proceeded to the production stage. The parallel testing can begin as soon as the technical testing has been successfully completed. The parallel testing aims to ensure that the AREX EDI messages conform to the parallel testing material provided by the company and meet the requirements as to their content. The testing official will inform the company contact person about any errors that have emerged during the testing and that the company tester needs to rectify. The parallel testing can be approved when a sufficient number of test cases have been completed and the errors and deficiencies have been rectified.

## 6 PASSING THE TESTING PHASES

When the technical and parallel testing have been successfully completed, the testing official will report the successful completion of the testing phases and send the completion report to the authorisation processing officer at the Electronic Service Centre in Turku. The authorisation processing officer sends the company the decision on AREX EDI sender authorisation in writing and the accompanying test report. If the customer uses direct message exchange, a decision on the registration for direct message exchange will also be sent.

## 7 STARTING EDI PRODUCTION

The date of commencing production will be decided with the company. If the company uses an operator the network service provider of the National Board of Customs will transfer the company approved as an EDI sender from the testing environment to the production environment. AREX EDI senders must arrange the switch from the testing environment to the production environment with their own operators. In direct message exchange, Customs will register the company's right to start production, and it is the company's responsibility to ensure that the messages are sent to the production environment. The company may start AREX EDI message exchange on the date specified in the authorisation decision.

In case of problems with production, the company should first contact their own software supplier and operator or, if applicable, their service provider and, if necessary, the Electronic Service Centre.

## 8 CHANGE OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE SOFTWARE

The company must report any changes in the software or version used or in the interface used in the message exchange, as well as their wish to submit new types of declarations, to the email address [EDI-luvat\(at\)tulli.fi](mailto:EDI-luvat@tulli.fi), so that the need for testing can be determined. New software or declaration types may not be taken into use prior to approval by Customs.

## 9 FURTHER INFORMATION

Queries about how to apply for AREX EDI sender authorisation, and about what data should be used in the messages according to the data models of the message specifications, can be sent to the address [turvatiidot\(at\)tulli.fi](mailto:turvatiidot@tulli.fi). Queries concerning the testing and individual test cases should primarily be addressed to the assigned testing official at the Electronic Service Centre or sent to the address [arex.testaus@tulli.fi](mailto:arex.testaus@tulli.fi).

## 10 SPECIFICATIONS AND COMPLETION INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TECHNICAL TEST CASES

### 10.1 Trader data to be used in testing

The following traders have been used as examples in the technical test cases:

- **Huolintatesti Oy** (agent) FI5342687-3, T0001, EORI and AEOC, warehouse R0001, EDI sender
- **Käteishuolintatesti Oy** (transport operator) FI7283476-8, T0001, EORI and AEOC, EDI sender
- **Arexi Oy** (company) FI1251021-9, T0001, EORI and AEOF

- **Areksin Huolinta Oy** (company) FI1659561-9, T0001, neither of the authorisations, not an AREX customer
- **Huolinta Arex Oy** FI1211101-5, T0001, neither of the authorisations, EDI declarant
- **Testiyritys 1 Oy** (declarant) FI2195826-9, T0001, EORI, EDI sender
- **Tuonti Arex Oy** (declarant) FI1200484-2, T0001, EORI and AEOF, EDI sender
- **Testiareksi Ky** (declarant) FI 1191507-0, T0001, neither of the authorisations, not an AREX customer

The company is to replace the example operators with its own details in the technical example cases. If the company always operates as an agent, an agent should be added to those test cases where one is not used. If no agent is deployed, there is no need to specify this.

The aim is to use the real details of the company’s customers in the parallel testing. However, no separate AEO status or similar will be saved for the client companies for the purpose of testing. The above-mentioned example companies can also be used in the parallel tests if necessary.

### 10.2 General completion instructions for test cases

The message sender’s EDI-identity is the ICD of the registry’s administrator (0037) is followed by the business ID without the dash. If using direct message exchange, the country code FI and business ID is used as identification. In test situations, the customer must always enter the test indicator “1” in the message block. The testing official will give the customer a string of five letters to use both in the tests and in production. The character string used in the example cases of the customer testing and defined in the “message identification” of the message block is “AREXI”, and the company is to replace this with the character string that it has been assigned.

In test cases where MRNs for summary declaration, export or transit are to be entered, the Customs testing official will e-mail the necessary MRNs to the company.

### 10.3 Specifications for technical test cases

The table below shows a list of short descriptions of test cases. The testing official will send test cases that suit the company’s needs in PDF format and the company is to send XML messages to Customs that correspond to the data content provided.

#### Short descriptions

ARRIVAL		
<b>Test 1 sea</b>	IE315	A vessel from Boston to Vuosaari
	IE313	Correct gross mass to 3 500 000kgm
	IE323	Change first customs office from FI009801 to Estonia EE1110EE
<b>Test 2 sea</b>	IE315	Two goods items to Vuosaari, subsequent customs office Kotka

	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation to Vuosaari, unloaded to a warehouse
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation to Vuosaari, goods item continues to Kotka
	IE344	Subsequent arrival notification to Kotka (only items unloaded in Kotka)
	IE344	Correct gross mass 120000 -> 125000
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation to Kotka (only the goods item which will be unloaded in Kotka)
<b>Test 3 sea</b>	IE315	Many goods items, the first has notify party
<b>Test 4 sea</b>	IE315	Traders have AEO status, special circumstance indicator E
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation
	IE347	Correct warehouse FI0680042-0 -> FI5342687-3
<b>Test 5 sea</b>	IE344	Goods are transferred from other vessels in Hamburg
		Includes several MRN items, which include several goods items
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation, unloading indicator
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation, warehouse, date and time of arrival is given
<b>Test 6 sea</b>	IE344	Same vessel continues from Gothenburg to Vuosaari. Subsequent arrival notification includes many manifest items.
<b>Test 7 sea</b>	IE315	A Vessel from Gothenburg to St.Petersburg and to Kotka, second item is loaded in Gothenburg, Community goods (status C), the permit for article 324 e (2YMM)
<b>Test 8 sea</b>	IE315	A vessel from Hamburg to Vuosaari, (entry carrier) trader is different from person lodging the summary declaration many containers and seals
<b>Test 9 sea</b>	IE344	From Gothenburg to Vuosaari, art.448, 7MYP simplified transit permit status C (community goods), many containers and seals
<b>Test 10 sea</b>	IE315a	One goods item, stainless steel
	IE315b	Two goods items, aluminium plates and pipes
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation of both IE315 messages
	IE347	Amend unloading indicator 1 --> unloaded to a warehouse FI5342687-3 R0001
<b>Test 11 sea</b>	IE315	A vessel from St. Petersburg to Kotka, subsequent customs office Helsinki, two goods items
	IE3470	Arrival notification with Entry Key data
	IE347	Presentation of the goods item that is to be unloaded
<b>Test 12 sea</b>	IE315	FIXEV (fallback procedure) and IE399
<b>Test 13 sea</b>	IE344	FIXEV (fall back procedure) and IE399
<b>Test 1 air</b>	IE315	A flight from Delhi to Helsinki, several consignees and consignors
	IE313	Correct packaging from 1500 to 1400, first item from 500 to 400
	IE323	Change the first customs office from FI015300 to Estonia EE1110EE
<b>Test 2 air</b>	IE315	Includes subsequent customs office Tampere
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation to Helsinki, not unloaded, items continue to Tampere
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation to Helsinki, items are unloaded in a warehouse
	IE344	Subsequent arrival notification, items 3 and 4 continue to Tampere

	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation to Tampere, items 3 and 4 will be unloaded
<b>Test 3 air</b>	IE315	Air traffic, many goods items, FIXEV and IE399
<b>Test 4 air</b>	IE315	Traders have AEO status, specific circumstance indicator E
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation
<b>Test 5 air</b>	IE344	Two MRN items, first MRN item has several consignees and consignors on item level in second MRN item the traders are given on MRN level The same plane continues from Germany to Helsinki
	IE344	Correct first MRN item, first goods item's consignor
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation, unloaded to a warehouse
	IE347	Amended, items will be unloaded, but not to a warehouse
<b>Test 6 air</b>	IE344	Community goods, status C and T1, art.445 simplified transit permit
<b>Test 7 air</b>	IE344	Low value declaration (7VTI)
<b>Test 8 air</b>	IE344	FIXEV (Fallback procedure) and IE399
<b>Test 1 road</b>	IE315	Traders are given on goods item level, two goods items
<b>Test 2 road</b>	IE315	Traders are given on header level, one goods item
<b>Test 3 road</b>	IE315	Traders have AEO status, specific circumstance indicator E, seals
<b>Test 4 road</b>	IE315	(entry carrier) trader is different from person lodging the summary declaration, name continuation, container, seal, UNDG, transport charges/ method of payment H
<b>Test 1 rail</b>	IE315	One goods item, traders on header level, many waggons
	IE313	Correct gross mass 25000 -> 230000 kgm
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation, unloaded to a warehouse
<b>Test 2 rail</b>	IE315	Several goods items, traders on item level, UNDG, Transport charges/method of payment are given on item level
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation, items 1 and 3, unloaded, but not to a warehouse
	IE347	Arrival notification and presentation, item 2, not unloaded
<b>Test 3 rail</b>	IE315	Traders have AEO status, specific circumstance indicator E, name continuation
<b>EXIT</b>		
<b>Test 1 sea</b>	IE615	Two goods items, traders given on goods item level, additional document 2YVP
	IE613	Correct gross mass 11850 -> 11550 kgm
<b>Test 2 sea</b>	IE615	One goods item
	IE547	Export manifest presentation on test 1 ja test 2
	IE590	Exit notification
<b>Test 3 sea</b>	IE547	Export manifest presentation, ELEX MRN numbers, final and partial export
	IE590	Exit notification

<b>Test 4 sea</b>	IE547	Arex- and Elex-MRN, final export, number of packages and gross mass given
	IE547	Correct identity of means of transport crossing border 01010122 → 01010133
	IE590	Exit notification
<b>Test 5 sea</b>	IE547	Export MRN, number of pieces given
<b>Test 6 sea</b>	IE615	635T as previous administrative reference
<b>Test 7 sea</b>	IE547	Other export reference
<b>Test 1 air</b>	IE615	Two goods items, traders on item level, 2YVP (declaration is used as an exit summary declaration for terminating temporary warehousing), Location of goods L, warehouse FI5342687-3 R0003
	IE613	Correct packaging from 50 to 60 and gross mass from 500 to 600
	IE547	Export manifest presentation
	IE590	Exit notification
<b>Test 2 air</b>	IE547	Export MRN numbers, includes final or partial shipment flag
	IE547	Correct conveyance reference number AIR024L -> AIR034L
	IE590	Exit notification
<b>Test 3 air</b>	IE615	Electronics from the USA transited through Finland to Russia, location of goods O
	IE547	Export manifest presentation
	IE590	Exit notification
<b>Test 1 road</b>	IE615	Electronics from the USA transited through Finland to Russia, location of goods O, 2YVP (declaration is used as an exit summary declaration for terminating temporary warehousing)
	IE613	Correct packaging from 525 to 625, on second goods item from 300 to 400
<b>Test 2 road</b>	IE615	Cylinder locks from the USA transited through Finland to Russia, location of goods Z, customs office FI009801
<b>Test 1 rail</b>	IE615	Granite from Canada transited through Finland to Russia, location of goods Z customs office FI542700, 2YVP (declaration is used as an exit summary declaration for terminating temporary warehousing)
	IE613	Correct gross mass from 8850 to 9850kgm
	IE547	Export manifest presentation
	IE590	Exit notification
<b>Test 2 rail</b>	IE615	Forklifts and cars from the USA through Finland to Russia, location of goods O Traders are on goods item level
<b>Test 3 rail</b>	IE547	Export MRN numbers, includes final or partial shipment flag
	IE547	Correct conveyance reference number from 3788 to 3785
<b>TEMPORARY STORAGE</b>		
<b>1</b>	IE007	Two goods items, an agent is used

<b>2</b>	IE007	Two goods items of which another is not in an acceptable condition and the message will be rejected
	IE007	Customs testing official gives the correct item number
<b>1</b>	IE044	One MRN, two goods items of which another is OK and another has discrepancies
<b>2</b>	IE044	Two MRN items, no discrepancies, an agent is used, another of the MRN's is incorrect and the message will be rejected
<b>3</b>	IE044	Two MRN items, three goods items, two goods items have discrepancies