



Electronic declaration methods for intra-EU trade

The statistical declaration on intra-EU trade (Intrastat) can be submitted electronically in different ways. The data provider or the representative can choose the most suitable declaration method. One can also use more than one declaration method.

Electronic declaration methods

1. Web declarations

1.1 Electronic Intrastat form

The electronic Intrastat form on the Internet is mainly intended for data providers with a low number of commodity code lines, for then it is easy to manually fill in the form.

1.2 File transfer

File transfer is suitable for data providers with a fairly high number of commodity code lines, when the data in the company's own systems can be used to create the file.

2. EDIFACT statistical messages

EDIFACT statistical messages are suitable for data providers that already use EDIFACT messages e.g. for submitting customs declarations. Sending EDIFACT messages also requires an operator.

3. E-mail

Sending a declaration as a file by e-mail requires encryption of the data using a separate encryption program. It is also more difficult for the declarant to correct any errors in the declaration than when using other declaration methods, because the data is not checked immediately as it is sent, but at a later stage.

This brochure presents these declaration methods in broad outline.

>> For more detailed instructions and descriptions, please go to the Finnish Customs website www.tulli.fi/en > Finnish Customs > Foreign trade statistics > Intrastat.

I Web declarations

I.1 Electronic Intrastat form

Statistical declarations on intra-EU trade can be submitted using an electronic form on the Internet, on the Itella Information Oy's TYVI Service web page at <http://tyvi.fi>. The service is available in Finnish, Swedish and English. There are separate forms for arrivals and dispatches.

Using the electronic Intrastat form requires a Katso ID, which is free of charge. The electronic form is well suited for data providers with fewer than 50 commodity codes per month. Larger numbers of commodity codes can also be declared.

The service can be tested using a demo code (<http://www.tyvi.fi/en/index.html> > ItellaTYVI Demo > select e.g. Customs/Intrastat declaration on arrivals). User guidance and support are provided by the Intrastat phone support, tel. +358 20 690 614 (> select 2).

Benefits of the service

For declarants, the electronic form provides several benefits. It is easy to fill in the form, and no additional investments are needed. Also, the data is quickly available, which speeds up statistics production.

- The service provides the following benefits, among others:
- The program checks that the entered data is correct, e.g. it is not possible to enter incorrect codes.
- In the electronic form, the full CN8 nomenclature is available.
- No goods description is needed; the CN8-level commodity code is enough.
- The value data can be entered either in euros or in another commonly used currency (the system converts the value data into euros).
- The service is quick – the finished declaration is sent directly to Customs electronically.
- Through the service, one can also send a nil declaration if there have not been any arrivals or dispatches to declare during the month in question.
- Statistical data that has been sent can be corrected using a correction function to send the corrected data electronically to Customs.
- One can save the declaration and send it immediately or one can continue entering data during several days and send the declaration when all the goods items to be declared for the month in question have been saved.
- The declarations are saved in an archive from where they can be retrieved if they are needed later.

Starting to use the service

Using the electronic Intrastat form requires a **Katso ID**.

- The Katso ID can be applied at <https://yritys.tunnistus.fi> > In English.
- The Katso ID is free of charge.
- With the TulliIntrastat role, an employee or a representative can be authorised to send Intrastat declarations.
- Master users of companies need not separately apply for the TulliIntrastat role, as all the roles are automatically available for them.
- An Intrastat declaration can be submitted using a sub-ID (PWD=Password) or strong authentication (OTP=One Time Password).

>> More information about the Katso ID
www.vero.fi/katso > in English
e-mail: katso@vero.fi
the Katso phone support service at +358 20 697 040

1.2 Sending files over the Internet

The statistical declaration can also be sent as a standard format **CSV or ASCII file** over the Internet. Data transfer is well suited for data providers that have a high number of commodity code lines and whose statistical data is either entirely or partially available in electronic format in the company's own data systems. The number of commodity code lines in CSV or ASCII files is not limited, but when sent, a long declaration is automatically divided into declarations with a maximum of 3 000 commodity code lines each.

File descriptions and instructions for generating files are available on the Finnish Customs website at www.tulli.fi/en > Finnish Customs > Foreign trade statistics > Intrastat. No separate testing of files is required. With a demo code, one can test file transfer (<http://tyvi.fi/en/index.html> > ItellaTYVI Demo > Data sending).

Benefits of the service

The service provides the following benefits, among others:

- The program checks that the entered data is correct, e.g. it is not possible to enter incorrect codes.
- The service is quick – the finished declaration is sent directly to Customs electronically.
- Statistical data that has been sent can be corrected using a correction function to send the corrected data electronically to Customs.
- The declarations are saved in an archive from where they can be retrieved if they are needed later.
- An electronic form is also available (see point 1.1).

Starting to use the service

Using data transfer requires both an ItellaTYVI Pro ID and a Katso ID

ItellaTYVI Pro ID

- The ItellaTYVI Pro ID is subject to a charge.
- It can be applied at <http://tyvi.fi/en/userid/tyvipro.html>.
- Itella Information Oy concludes a service contract with the customer.
- It takes approximately three working days to get the ID.

Katso ID

- The Katso ID can be applied at <https://yritys.tunnistus.fi> > In English.
- The Katso ID is free of charge.
- With the TulliIntrastat role, an employee or a representative can be authorised to send Intrastat declarations.
- Master users of companies need not separately apply for the TulliIntrastat role, as all the roles are automatically available for them.
- An Intrastat declaration can be submitted using a sub-ID (PWD=Password) or strong authentication (OTP=One Time Password).

>> More information about the Katso ID
www.vero.fi/katso
e-mail: katso@vero.fi
the Katso phone support service at +358 20 697 040

2 EDIFACT statistical messages

EDIFACT messages (CUSDEC/INSTAT) are well suited for larger companies that already use other EDI messages. Data is often sent in EDI messages daily directly per invoice line, so the amounts of data can be large. On the other hand, if the system is well constructed, submitting the statistical declaration does not create any extra burden for the user. The recommended maximum number of commodity code lines in a declaration is 5 000 lines. The absolute maximum number of commodity code lines in a declaration is 9 999 lines.

The statistical message (CUSDEC/INSTAT) conforms to the UN/EDIFACT standard, and it is sent to Customs over the general service network according to the X.400 protocol. Customs has service network contracts with several providers of network services. Gateways between different networks can also be used when sending data.

Declarations received as EDI messages are checked by machine, and an error message is automatically sent for any errors. The declarant corrects the declaration data and sends the declaration again.

Starting to use the service

Before the customer starts using the declaration method, the system is always tested together with the customer. The data provider shall register for testing by e-mailing to testaus.intrastat@tulli.fi.

A description of the EDI message for Intrastat is available by e-mail or by post from the Statistics Unit of the National Board of Customs (see Contact information and orders).

3 E-mail

ASCII files constructed according to a specific record model can be sent by e-mail. ASCII files are particularly suited to declarants that have a high number of commodity code lines and whose data is entirely or partially available in electronic format in the company's own data systems. The recommended maximum number of commodity code lines in a declaration is 5 000 lines. The absolute maximum number of commodity code lines in a declaration is 9 999 lines.

If an ASCII file is sent by e-mail, the declaration data is checked in the Customs system, and any detected errors will be printed as a list that will be sent to the declarant. After making the corrections, the declarant will send the list to Customs, where the corrections to the original declaration will be made.

Starting to use the service

If an ASCII file is sent by e-mail, the correctness of the file must always be tested with Customs. At the same time, Customs will provide the necessary user IDs and passwords. The data provider shall register for testing by e-mailing to testaus.intrastat@tulli.fi. The description of the record is available at the Finnish Customs website www.tulli.fi/en > Finnish Customs > Foreign trade statistics > Intrastat.

Sending a file by e-mail also requires encryption of the file, which will be tested separately. The instructions are available at the Finnish Customs website www.tulli.fi/en > Finnish Customs > Foreign trade statistics > Intrastat.

Contact information and orders

I Web declarations

I.1 Electronic Intrastat form

Applying for the user ID:

Katso ID (free of charge): <https://yritys.tunnistus.fi> > In English

- >> More information about the Katso ID and about support for using the web form
www.vero.fi/katso > in English
e-mail: katso@vero.fi
the Katso phone support service at +358 20 697 040
Support for using the web form and more information Customs Intrastat phone support, tel. +358 20 690 614 (> select 2)

I.2 File transfer

Applying for the user ID:

ItellaTYVI Pro ID (subject to a charge): <http://tyvi.fi/en/userid/tyvipro.html> and Katso ID (free of charge): <https://yritys.tunnistus.fi> > in English

- >> More information about the Katso ID and about technical and content support concerning declarations:
www.vero.fi/katso > in English
e-mail: katso@vero.fi
the Katso phone support service at +358 20 697 040
Technical support for file transfer: Itella HelpDesk: helpdesk@itella.net or tel. +358 20 452 9348
More information about declaration contents: Customs Intrastat phone support, tel. +358 20 690 614 (> select 2)

Descriptions of ASCII and CSV files and instructions for creating them:

- >> The Finnish Customs website: www.tulli.fi/en > Finnish Customs > Foreign trade statistics > Intrastat.

2 EDIFACT statistical messages

Description of the EDI message for Intrastat:

- >> ilmoittajat.intrastat@tulli.fi
National Board of Customs, Statistics Unit, PO Box 512, 00101 Helsinki

Registering for testing:

- >> testaus.intrastat@tulli.fi

3 E-mail

Description of the ASCII file and instructions for sending and encrypting the file:

- >> The Finnish Customs website: www.tulli.fi/en > Finnish Customs > Foreign trade statistics > Intrastat.

Registering for testing:

- >> testaus.intrastat@tulli.fi

The Finnish Customs website: www.tulli.fi/en

The EU countries are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The EEA countries are the EU countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

Service contacts

Erottajankatu 15-17
00130 Helsinki

Intrastat phone support

tel. 020 690 614
ilmoittajat.intrastat@tulli.fi

Customs Information Service

tel. 020 690 600
fax 020 492 1812

Written enquiries can be sent using the enquiry form available at www.tulli.fi/en

> Contact us > Enquiry form

Statistics Service

tel. 020 690 603

Written enquiries can be sent using the enquiry form available at www.tulli.fi/en

> Contact us > Statistics Service's enquiry and order form

Tip-off hotline 0800 1 4600

www.tulli.fi

Prices of calls to Customs telephone numbers beginning with 020 492 or 020 391:

- from fixed-line telephones 8.28 cents/call + 7 cents/min (incl.VAT 23%)
- from mobile phones 8.28 cents/call + 17 cents/min (incl.VAT 23%)

Calls to service numbers beginning with 020 690: no extra charge, the price depends on the subscriber connection used:

- from fixed-line telephones 0 cents/min + local network charge
- from mobile phones 0 cents/min + mobile call charge