

Preparation for CDS in 2022

In September 2022 the HMRC CHIEF import service will be switched off and the only means of declaring goods to Customs in the UK will be via the new Customs Declaration Service (CDS). CHIEF exports will be switched off six months later at the end of March 2023. CDS is a replacement for the legacy CHIEF system that has been running in the UK since 1992. CHIEF currently processes around three hundred million customs entries per year.

As with any new system, especially a sophisticated IT system, the delivery will be challenging.

CDS is already Live

In Northern Ireland and has been for imports since 1 January 2021. Here in Great Britain, there is already a small number of importers completing import customs entries.

CDS Test Service is also Live

In addition to the live service, CDS has a test service which is available to traders who want to train on CDS in advance of live date. This Trader Dress Rehearsal service or TDR can only be accessed through CDS compliant software, so if you have entry software you may wish to speak to your software developer.

CKF is already undertaking training on CDS

With a view to live implementation early for customers who are ready, we have taken part in Customs run training and have been completing CDS export and import declarations on the TDR service for some time now. The learning curve is a steep one, but progress is good. The new system is very process driven, and one thing that is apparent is there will be an increase in the part the customer will have to play in the run up to an entry being ready to transmit.

We'll be sharing our findings on those areas with our customers in follow up to this advisory in the New Year.

CDS for the Exporter

As an exporter, you will want to know what declarations have been made on your behalf. Currently you can do this by purchasing the monthly CHIEF MSS Reports which provides details of what has been declared on your behalf using your EORI, CDS doesn't work in this way so if you wish to obtain this information from CDS, you will need to register on the CDS portal.

CDS For the Importer

As well as obtaining your declaration information, importers will need access CDS to download monthly Deferment Account statements and PVA statements, give agents authority to use deferment amongst other things. So again, you will need to register on the CDS portal.

CDS Registration

To access CDS, whether you want to complete Customs declarations, or you just want to download reports from the CDS Portal, you will need a Government Gateway account.

Most VAT registered traders already have a Government Gateway account to file their VAT returns, so adding CDS shouldn't be too difficult. But just make sure you still have those credentials, and of course don't forget that mobile phone number you used for the 2-stage identification process. Speak to whoever holds the account in your organisation and leave plenty of time to register, just in case.

Details of the CDS registration process can be found [here](#).

If you have any questions about CDS or about using Charles Kendall Freight to support your CDS entries, please speak to your local contact or sales person or contact our Compliance team at: compliance@charleskendall.com