HM Revenue & Customs

CHIEF versus CDS
Top 10 Differences

CUPID Team
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CHIEF versus CDS Top 10 Differences

CHIEF	CDS	Comments
Community Customs Code	Union Customs Code	Paper based rules versus data processing
Paper form multi-use boxes	Single use data element	Completion requirements geared towards paper completion (layout and format different)
Business rules driven by unique Custom Procedure Codes (CPCs) for each type of declaration, e.g., Simplified declarations had different CPCs to a supplementary declaration	Business rules driven by data set not procedure codes The same procedure codes are used across multiple declaration types in CDS	Procedure Code is always the same in CDS regardless of the type of declaration being made. Same code used on simplified, standard and supplementary declaration types
Single mainframe system	Multiple components to do a specific task	Messaging between components rather than single platform to process from end to end
EDIFACT messaging language	XML messaging language	External stakeholders required to change software language as well as data changes

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7-digit fixed customs procedure codes 1 CPC for a single goods item	Single 4-digit procedure code combined with up to 99 3-digit additional procedure code One 4-digit code and multiple 3-digits codes for a single goods item	No 1-2-1 correlation with CHIEF CPCs. Multiple, interchangeable combinations depending on unique circumstances
68 Boxes on SAD form, subsets used for imports and exports	New data elements introduced into CDS under UCC data sets: 91 different data elements used across imports and exports	Added burdens on trade of providing new information • 76 data elements for imports • 65 data elements for exports
Single box used for multiple pieces of information in CHIEF	Boxes split into multiple data elements in CDS. Used for a single piece of data	3 boxes on CHIEF, trader now required to complete up to 17 different data elements on CDS
Single SAD (C88) form used for multiple purposes	18 different data sets used in CDS	If businesses do not select appropriate data set declaration will reject
Several boxes provided in free text format	Most data elements restricted to code format other than Name and Address fields	Code lists are not the same for CHIEF and CDS Declarant must select correct code or declaration will fail

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