

Customs & Excise

Operational Centre of
Excellence



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Date
2019/01/24

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Dear Customs client

UPDATE ON GO-LIVE OF REPORTING OF CONVEYANCES AND GOODS (RCG): PHASE 2A AND PRODUCTION RELEASE OF DECLARATION PROCESSING SYSTEM (DPS)

We would like to update you about the implementation of RCG Phase 2A scheduled for this weekend. This phase of the project deals with the implementation of electronic Road Freight Manifests (e-RFM) relating to part-shipment movements of goods across land borders. A communicate was sent out last week to inform clients that the go-live – which was scheduled to take place in December 2018 – will now take place on 25 January 2019. This release will mainly impact road carriers, clearing agents and service providers/bureaus.

The rollout of Phase 2A of the Cargo Processing System (CPS) and the production release of the Declaration Processing System (DPS) is scheduled to commence at **18:00 and should last until 20:00 on Friday, 25 January 2019**. Please note that Customs systems will be unavailable during this period.

Stakeholders are kindly requested to process all priority declaration and manifest transactions by **15:00** on Friday, 25 January 2019 to allow for their finalisation within the customs system before the system downtime.

Any new clearances and manifests submitted after this time will queue until the system becomes available again. As is the case with all major rollouts, the system downtime will include necessary internal SARS stability testing. Once this has been successfully accomplished, the SARS systems will resume service for trade transactions.

Processing at Land Borders

Kindly note that **no** electronic customs services at land borders will be available during downtime.

Carriers intending to cross the border on 25 January 2019 must ensure that they have submitted their electronic Road Freight Manifests, and have received the required “proceed to border status” before **15:00** on that day.

CUSRES 40 and 41 arrival and exit messages to carriers and declarants will be delayed during the implementation process, but will be resumed thereafter.

Stakeholders who have urgent requirements e.g. perishable goods, must either cross the border before the down time, or make prior arrangements with the relevant branch office for manual processing for that period.

Part shipments which have already commenced prior to the phase 2A implementation must be concluded in terms of the historic procedures applied in respect thereof. Part shipments which commence after the RCG implementation will be administered under the new automated procedure.

The DPS production release in support of RCG comprises the segmentation of the “Transport Document Number” field on the CUSDEC (for SEA Import entries only) as follows:-

Data Element	Conditionality	EDI Data Element
Vessel Agent	Optional	NAD+CG (Carriers’s Agent)
Master Cargo Carrier Code	Mandatory	NAD+RL (Reporting Carrier)
Transport Document Number	Mandatory	RFF+AAS (Transport Document Number)

Should the segmentation (as above) not be done after the release on 25 January 2019, the following transitional logic will apply until the end of March 2019:

- If the first 4 characters of “Transport Document Number” are found in new “Vessel Agent” code table as published on https://tools.sars.gov.za/ACM_code_Tables/ then:
 - Vessel Agent = Transport Document [1-4]
 - Master Cargo Carrier = Transport Document [5-8]
 - Transport Document = Transport Document [9-end]
- Otherwise:
 - Vessel Agent = N/A
 - Master Cargo Carrier = Transport Document [1-4]
 - Transport Document = Transport Document [5-end]

For any further information relating to RCG please visit the RCG webpage on the SARS website (www.sars.gov.za).

Thank you for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

OLEBOGENG RAMATLHODI

**EXECUTIVE: CUSTOMS & EXCISE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
(ACTING)**