

NEWS RELEASE

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Export Control System (ECS) PSA HNN completes the electronic process

ANTWERPEN – PSA HNN innovates continuously to realise its commitment to excellence in services, also in the sector of e-customs, where direct electronic communication with the customs authorities becomes an important link.

The national custom authorities are working intensively on the further implementation of the Export Control System (ECS), which implies the conversion to electronic handling of the export formalities. In Belgium this fits in with the national project MASP.BE (also known under the name PLDA).

With ECS the exporter / declarant must no longer present a paper declaration at the customs office of exit, respectively at the customs offices on the port terminals, but electronic communication of the MRN, the Movement Reference Number, which is adjudged to the declaration by the customs office of export, is sufficient.

In theory, as from July 1st 2009, the terminal operators in the port are charged with the electronic presentation to the customs authorities, as the delivered containers / goods are effectively under their supervision.

Hence, the terminal operator becomes an important link for reporting between the exporter / declarant on the one hand and the shipping agent and the customs authorities on the other hand.

PSA HNN, together with its subsidiary HNN Balie NV, has adapted its services in order to maximise benefits of electronic declarations, not only for the shipping lines and their agents, but also to the advantage of shippers, exporters, declarants and all parties involved in the supply of containers.

From now on the exporter / declarant can pass MRN codes to E-Balie, a new PSA HNN IT program, by means of electronic communication (XML-message, input in E-portal or via EDI of Copino).

E-Balie ensures an automatic link of the MRN code with the container numbers for containers delivered to the PSA HNN terminals. This information subsequently is passed on to the customs office of exit and to the agent.

Thanks to this service PSA HNN helps shippers, exporters, exporters, declarants, agents and carriers to ensure a smooth export of containers. Indeed, without the appropriate reporting of containers and their MRN's to the customs, these containers would be shipped irregularly and the involved parties risk to be fined.

Also for electronic pre-notification of containers, announcing the delivery of containers before the containers are brought physically to the terminal, it will be possible to hand over the MRN's. This becomes possible for all transport modes, truck, rail and inland shipping, offering a final solution for the problems inherent to the paper flow after many years.

While national and EU customs systems are in full conversion, PSA HNN has, in anticipation of MASP.BE – ECS becoming operational and in consultation with the customs administration, established a full electronic reporting to the local customs in order to assist them in a smooth conversion to full ECS, retaining all options for control and freeze / release of containers.

Parties involved interested in more information about this new service, can have a look at www.psahnn.be or send an e-mail to e-balie@psahnn.be.

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