



# HM Revenue & Customs

## Moving your exports to the Customs Declaration Service

Dear Customer,

As an exporter that only uses the Goods Vehicle Movement Service (GVMS), you should now start submitting your export declarations through the Customs Declaration Service (CDS).

The only exceptions are if:

- there is a chance your goods could be rerouted to an inventory linked airport or maritime location; or
- you use temporary storage facilities; or
- you use a designated export place.

All export declarations should move from our Customs Handling of Import and Export Freight (CHIEF) system to CDS by Saturday 30 March 2024. However, we understand not all customers may be able to migrate by then. For this reason, you will be given up to three months to migrate from when the CDS is available for your exports.

## Helping you to move your exports to CDS

We have recently published new guidance to help support your move to CDS. This includes:

- [A declarant checklist for CDS exports](#) – providing a step-by-step guide to the key actions you will need to take.
- [CDS customs clearance instructions for exports videos](#) – taking you through the key steps required to complete an export declaration.
- [CDS known error workarounds](#) – please check this document for details of ongoing workarounds to help you submit customs clearance requests or customs declarations through CDS.

You can find further guidance and resources on the [CDS guidance pages](#) and the supporting [CDS communications pack](#).

We also recommend that you use the free Trader Dress Rehearsal service (TDR) which allows you to practice submitting CDS export declarations in a safe test environment. People who use this service are more successful in submitting live declarations through the CDS. You can find out more about TDR and how to use it [in our guidance](#). If you currently use the National Export System web service (NESweb) to submit your export declarations through CHIEF, you will be able to use the Make an Export Declaration Online service. This allows you to submit export declarations through the CDS and replaces NESweb. We will contact you separately about joining this service.

## Actions to take

If you have not already done so:

1. [apply for an Economic Operator Registration and Identification \(EORI\) number](#) beginning with 'GB'.
2. [subscribe to the Customs Declaration Service](#) so you will be able to submit export declarations from your software to the Customs Declaration Service. If you have already subscribed to CDS for imports, you do not need to subscribe again to CDS for exports.
3. contact the software provider you will be using to submit your export declarations through CDS to see if:
  - you can authorise your software so that you are ready to submit export declarations through CDS; and
  - start using their software to access the free Trader Dress Rehearsal.
4. If you do not have a software provider, you can find details of [software providers providing CDS exports software](#).
5. Once you are comfortable submitting export declarations in the Trader Dress Rehearsal Service you should then start submitting all of your export declarations for goods being exported using GVMS through CDS.

## Next steps

We are working closely with community system providers, software developers and other border industry partners to ensure declarations can be submitted through CDS for the full range of export routes. This includes inventory linked airport and maritime locations – including those involving temporary storage facilities and designated export places. We will contact relevant businesses once this functionality is in place.

If you have any questions, including help with subscribing to CDS, [please contact us using one of these channels](#), or speak to your Account Manager or Customer Compliance Manager if you have one.

We will continue to provide information and guidance to support your business for making export declarations through CDS. To receive updates and notifications about CDS, please make sure we have your [preferred email address](#).

Yours faithfully,

HM Revenue & Customs