



# STATISTICS RELATING TO THE TRADING OF GOODS (53)

*(Commodity & Country Classifications (11))*

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# 1. GENERAL BACKGROUND

## 1.1 Need of International trade statistics

1. Community policies e.g.:
  - preparation for multilateral and bilateral trade negotiations,
  - evaluate the progress of the internal Market
2. National policies e.g.:
  - Compilation of balance of Payments Statistics & National Accounts
3. Decision making on Business-level e.g.:
  - Carrying out market research and define commercial strategies



## 1.2 Use of trade data per month

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 72000       | Extractions from the public system<br>(Easy Comext)                     |
| 2000 – 4000 | Extractions from Commission Services<br>and other institutions (Comext) |
| 500         | DVDs distributed to extensive users                                     |
| 40          | Commercial distributors are provided<br>with 22 Gigabyte downloads      |



## 1.3 Two different statistical systems:

### Intrastat

- Direct collection of information from companies
- A close link with the VAT system
- A threshold system

### Extrastat

- Dependent from Customs rules
- ≈ Total coverage



## 1.4 Data collected for Intra- and Extrastat

- Flow
- Commodity
- Partner Country
- Value
- Quantity
- Nature of the transaction (Intra – optional Extra)
- Identification number of the PSI (Intra)
- Customs/Statistical procedure (Extra - Optional Intra)
- Transport data (Extra –optional Intra )
- Preference (Extra imports)
- Delivery terms (optional Extra/Intra)
- Other data made available by Customs (optional Extra)



## 2. THE ACQUIS

### Intrastat

(EC) No 638/2004 EP& Council Regulation  
(EC) No 1982/2004 Commission Regulation

Amending regulation

- (EC) No 1915/2005 Quantity

### Extrastat

(EC) No 1172/95 Council Regulation  
(EC) No 1917/2000 Commission Regulation

Amending regulations

- (EC) No 476/97 statistical territory
- (EC) No 374/98 country codes
- (EC) No 1669/2001 threshold
- (EC) No 179/2005 transmission delay
- (EC) No 1949/2005 exclusion of repair

### Nomenclatures

**Goods:**

- Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87: Combined Nomenclature (CN)
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1810/2004: amending the codes of the CN
- Communication: explanatory note to the combined nomenclature

**Countries:** - Commission Regulation: nomenclature of countries and territories (EC) No 750/2005

**Custom provisions** Custom Code

**Fiscal provisions** VAT Directive



## 3. MOST PROBLEMATIC ISSUES

### 3.1 Implementing a new statistical system (Intrastat)

- The change from administrative data sources to direct data collection
- Identification and monitoring of parties responsible for providing the information (trade register)
- Exhaustiveness and quality control through fiscal information (VAT system)
- Adjustments for trade below the threshold and late response
- Change of organisational and administrative responsibilities for data collection, processing and dissemination



## 3.2 Adaptation of current external trade statistics to the Extrastat system

- Expanded list of data elements (e.g. Taric, Preferences, Statistical procedures)





## 3.3 Data Transmission

- Preparation of data files according to Community transmission agreements (Doc Meth 400)



## 4. FUTURE ACQUIS

### Intrastat

- Reflection on further simplification
- Studies carried out in 2006
- Analysing the results in 2007
- Options:
  - Simplification of the CN
  - Increase threshold
  - One flow system

### Extrastat

- New legislation (2009)
  - Collection of revised customs data
  - Take into consideration E—Customs, Centralised Customs Clearance
  - Increase quality of the information (revisions)
  - Compile complementary related statistics