
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Informal document WP.30 No. 2 (2011)

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

13 January 2011

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

ENGLISH

127th session

Geneva, 1–4 February 2011

Item 10 (c) (i) of the provisional agenda.

TIR-related electronic data interchange systems

Submitted by International Road Transport Union



Real Time SafeTIR facilitates and secures transport under TIR procedures

SafeTIR was the IRU's response to the UN Recommendation on 20 October 1995, i.e. that a control system be set up to manage the use of TIR Carnets. Since 2006, this Recommendation made the SafeTIR procedure mandatory for Customs, according to Annex 10 of the TIR Convention.

The objective of SafeTIR is to ensure that the information written on the counterfoil of the TIR Carnet at the Customs office of destination of a TIR transport is also transmitted electronically to the Guarantee Chain. This is also made available to Customs authorities to enhance their Risk Management.

The Real Time SafeTIR system - RTS for short, was developed by IRU specialists to automate and thus facilitate routine Customs TIR operations, thereby providing Customs officers with up-to-date information on TIR carnet status and validity for the prompt detection of possible irregularities. Additionally, once the TIR operation is terminated, RTS will automatically send the SafeTIR message to the IRU without any effort from the Customs personnel, who will also profit from the electronic SafeTIR reconciliation service offered by the system.

Every day Customs services assume a huge number of various manual routine operations thereby using valuable time and effort, and leaving the service open to human error. Indeed, manual data entry is time consuming and can result in a high rate of error. Why not simplify and secure the more routine operations with the latest technology and make life easier and safer?

Real Time SafeTIR :

- ✓ Is an effective risk management tool
- ✓ Allows increased confidence in TIR carnet validity
- ✓ Allows automatic SafeTIR data exchange
- ✓ Facilitates SafeTIR reconciliation procedures
- ✓ Enhances safety and security for a better service

Your service will benefit from:

- ✓ Timely TIR Customs operations
- ✓ Reduced resource intensive activities
- ✓ Enhanced cargo throughput performance at borders
- ✓ A more efficient Customs fees collection system
- ✓ Rapid reaction to deal with irregularities as they occur
- ✓ A reduction in specific work-related risks

Note for EU members: Real Time SafeTIR is in line with EU legislation

RTS Services

Since RTS was implemented by the Federal Customs Service in Russia, the number of irregularities has considerably diminished – from more than one thousand cases per year down to single figures annually.

TIR Carnet status control

With RTS integrated into the Customs IT System, the Customs officers receive instantaneous access to the live TIR carnet status control service. The TIR carnet status is the most recent information in the TIR database which is continuously updated. Immediate action is possible in the case of any irregularities found. With RTS the Customs can remain confident that TIR operations are safe and secure.

Automatic SafeTIR data transmission

Customs officers are sometimes unable to send SafeTIR data on the same day that the TIR operation is terminated. There could be a delay of a few days which contradicts the TIR Convention. RTS prevents this from happening. The SafeTIR data would be automatically sent to the IRU as soon as the termination of a TIR operation is approved by Customs. The Customs officers will no longer need

to prepare and key in manually the SafeTIR termination messages daily, they will be managed by the computers, which will complete this routine function constantly and reliably. RTS will release valuable human resources, allowing Customs personnel to spend time on various other operational duties and activities.

Electronic SafeTIR reconciliation

The SafeTIR reconciliation procedure is necessary when a discrepancy or lack of SafeTIR data is detected. For reconciliation, an exchange of paper-based documents is performed by the partners. This is a mandatory procedure which is time-consuming and represents security risks due to its paper-based origin. With digital SafeTIR data exchange provided by the RTS system, the reconciliation process becomes as simple as a conventional electronic message exchange – fast, easy, and secure.

Several Customs authorities worldwide have already successfully integrated the Real Time SafeTIR into their Customs IT systems. French, Bosnian and Herzegovinian, Russian, Ukrainian, Kazakh, and Bulgarian customs are already benefiting from using RTS.

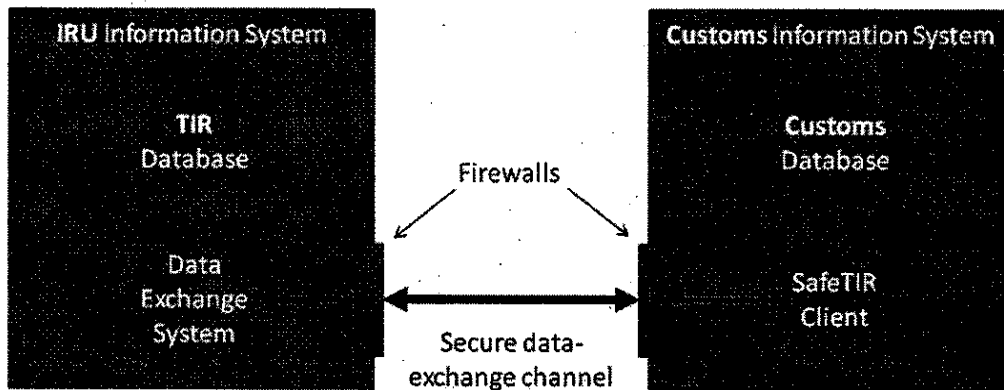


How can you get Real Time SafeTIR working for you?

Real Time SafeTIR is a software solution which, when integrated into existing Customs Information Systems, ensures the automatic exchange of TIR information between the IRU and Customs. A SafeTIR Client identity must be created in line with Real Time SafeTIR specifications in order to have access to IRU services and it can then be integrated into the Customs Information System. The development and integration of the Client can be done by Customs IT specialists or by a trusted third-party partner selected by the Customs.

Neither IRU nor any other party will have any access to the Customs database. The SafeTIR Client will send and receive encrypted information related to TIR operations only.

The picture below shows schematically the data exchange between the IRU and Customs Information Systems. The systems are fully independent and the data exchange is realized through a secure channel (HTTPS, VPN connection, etc....).



- Hardware requirements:** → No additional hardware is required
- Software requirements:** → SafeTIR Client (to be developed)
- Internet access:** → Preferably broadband ADSL connection
- HR requirements:** → 1 or 2 IT specialists
- Time required:** → 1 to 3 months
- IRU support:** → Technical consulting and source code examples

Practice in numerous countries has demonstrated that the implementation of the Real Time SafeTIR service is rapid, easy, and economical. Our specialists will be happy to assist you for the implementation of this essential risk management tool.

Real Time SafeTIR will simplify your TIR operations and will increase safety and security levels.