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New and Revised Standards and Recommendations

Recommendation No. 23: Freight Cost Code – FCC Harmonization of the Description of Freight Costs and Other Charges

Submitted by the Information Content Management Group (ICG)

Summary

At its fifth session, in 1999, the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) approved the recommendation of its Steering Group to delegate the authority for maintenance of the code lists associated with UN/CEFACT Recommendations to the Code Working Group. This authorization was transferred to the Information Content Management Group (ICG) in the reorganisation of UN/CEFACT's structure in 2003.

The ICG approved the latest code list in May 2010 (Revision 7) and is submitting these updated lists to the Plenary for information.¹

¹ This information can be downloaded from the UN/CEFACT website at http://www.unece.org/cefact/recommendations/rec_index.htm.

I. Preamble

1. The United Nations, through its Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT), supports activities dedicated to improving the ability of business, trade and administrative organizations, from developed, developing and transitional economies, to exchange products and relevant services effectively. Its principal focus is on facilitating national and international transactions, through the simplification and harmonization of processes, procedures and information flows, and so contribute to the growth of global commerce.²

2. The UN/CEFACT work programme emphasizes the need for developing recommendations, which simplify and harmonize the current practices and procedures used in international transactions. The role of the UN/CEFACT Information Content Management Group (ICG) is to secure the quality, relevance and availability of code sets and code structures to support the objectives of UN/CEFACT, including managing the maintenance of UNECE Recommendations related to codes. The ICG prepared this latest revision of the code list for Recommendation 23.

3. The attached revision supersedes and replaces the code list released with the sixth revision of Recommendation 23 (CEFACT/ICG/2008/IC003) approved by the ICG, in February 2008.

II. Code list presentation

4. The code list is presented with the following columns:

Change indicator (CI)

a plus sign (+)	for an addition
a hash sign (#)	for changes to the code description
a letter X (X)	for marked for deletion in this edition (will not appear in the next edition)

Group

Level 1 code. 1 digit designation of the main cost heading category.

Subgroup

Level 2 code. 2 digit designation of the general cost description within a cost heading category.

Detail

Level 3 code. 3 digit designation of the detailed cost description within a general cost description.

Description

Cost code description.

² From the mission statement of UN/CEFACT.

Mode/Site Indicator

2 character indication of a specific mode of transport or a type of handling site:

- 10 Maritime transport
- 11 Maritime transport deep sea
- 12 Maritime transport feeder service
- 13 Maritime transport ro/ro service
- 14 Maritime transport short sea
- 20 Rail transport
- 30 Road transport
- 40 Air transport
- 50 Mail
- 60 Multimodal/Combined transport
- 70 Fixed transport installations
- 80 Inland water transport
- BB Handling Site: Terminal operation
- DD Handling Site: Ship's agent
- FF Handling Site: Freight forwarder/forwarding agent

Duplicate Indicator

5. In order to uniquely identify each code entry in the code list, the following values may be combined to provide the unique key:

- Level 1 Code
- Level 2 Code
- Level 3 Code
- Duplicate Indicator

6. The Duplicate Indicator is a combination of the letter "D" and a sequence number, starting at 1 and incremented by 1 for each subsequent duplicate entry. Duplication occurs when there are multiple entries with identical Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 code values.

7. Reference should be made to the body text of Recommendation 23 (ECE/TRADE/170) for further information and examples concerning the structure and utilization of the code list.

III. Maintenance and updating

8. Recommendation 23 is maintained on behalf of UN/CEFACT by the by the UN/CEFACT Information Content Management Group (ICG).

9. Proposals for updating this Recommendation should be addressed to the Trade Facilitation Section, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland or by email to:

cefact@unece.org

10. Draft revisions to the body text and/or code list of this Recommendation shall be issued by the ICG when required and shall be made available on the ICG Web site listed at:

<http://www.uncefactforum.org/ICG>

11. Draft revisions shall be subject to a public comment period of at least six weeks. UN/CEFACT Heads of Delegation shall be notified of the availability of a draft revision and the period for comment. Following the conclusion of the comment period, the ICG shall address all comments received. Depending on the comments received, the ICG shall issue a new draft edition for comment or shall prepare a final edition for approval.

12. Final revisions to the body text of this Recommendation shall be approved by the UN/CEFACT Plenary and shall be made available on the UN/CEFACT Web site:

<http://www.unece.org/cefact>

13. Final revisions to the code lists of this Recommendation shall be approved by the ICG Plenary and notified to the UN/CEFACT Plenary. These revisions shall be made available on the UN/CEFACT website.

IV. Disclaimer

14. All information provided in this Recommendation, including in its associated annexes, is provided “as is”, without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including, without limitation, warranties of merchantability, fitness for a specific purpose and non-infringement. UN/CEFACT specifically does not make any warranties or representations as to the accuracy or completeness of any information published in this Recommendation. Under no circumstances shall UN/CEFACT be liable for any loss, damage, or expense incurred or suffered that is claimed to have resulted from the use of this Recommendation. The use of this Recommendation is at the user’s sole risk.
