

Description of the ICS2 onboarding pro- cesses



Version 1.0

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Choice of onboarding process

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1.1.Introduction

There are two different onboarding processes for ICS2 depending on how your company wishes to connect to the EU system: (1) The onboarding process for the online solution Shared Trader Interface-Shared Trader Portal (STI-STP), and (2) the onboarding process for the System-to-System solution Shared Trader Interface (STI). Which onboarding process is relevant for your company depends on how you intend to use the ICS2 process, and which role you play in the import process. This will be clarified through the questionnaire, which you will receive from the [Service desk](#) at the beginning of the onboarding process.

1.1.1 The Online Portal (STI-STP)

This onboarding process is suitable for those who wish to access the STI-STP portal.

It covers two types of economic operators:

1. Economic operators who intend to submit their own ENS declarations through the STI-STP portal, either by manually entering them or by uploading them as XML files.
2. Economic operators who utilize an IT Service Provider to submit their ENS declarations but wish the ability to view their ENS declarations in the EU system, as well as to modify settings for notifications received from STI-STP.

A detailed overview of the onboarding process for STI-STP is available on the [Customs Agency's website](#).

1.1.2 System-to-System (STI)

This onboarding process is designed for companies that seek to establish a System-to-System connection to STI. To be approved for establishing a System-to-System connection, the respective company must be able to complete EU's Self-Conformance Test for ICS2. This entails setting up access to the EU Conformance Test environment, as well as a series of additional technical steps. Accordingly, the process is considerably more time-consuming and technically complex compared to the STI-STP online process. Before deciding to onboard to the System-to-System solution, it is therefore recommended to consult the [EU documentation in the EU's public library regarding Self Conformance Test](#).

The process is intended for three types of economic operators:

1. IT Service Providers who want to be approved to submit ENS declarations on behalf of others.
2. Companies that have their own IT infrastructure and development resources to set up a System-to-System connection.
3. Software Providers who develop ICS2 solutions for customers based on System-to-System communication. As the economic operator themselves ultimately submits the ENS declarations on which the Self-Conformance Test is executed, all Software Providers' customers will have to execute their own Conformance Test.

On the [Customs Agency's website](#) you will find a detailed review of the onboarding process for the System-to-System solution (STI).

