Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

TIR Executive Board (TIRExB)

Sixty–second session
Geneva, 2 February 2015
Agenda item V (b)

Computerization of the TIR procedure

Central database on certificates of approval

Note by the secretariat

I. Background and mandate

1. At its fifty–second session, TIRExB took note of Informal document No. 2 (2013) and recommended future TIRExB’s to seriously consider, inter alia, the establishment of a central database on Certificates of Approval (CoA) and, possibly, start by undertaking a survey to gather information on national practices regarding their issuance (TIRExB/REP/2013/52final, para. 24).

2. At its fifty–ninth session, the Board welcomed Informal document No. 19 (2014) containing the results of an assessment of the survey on the issuance and renewal procedures for CoA at the national level (TIRExB/REP/2014/59final, para. 15).

3. At its sixtieth session, the Board requested the secretariat, as a next step, to submit proposals for the procedure by which Contracting Parties should collect and transmit data to TIRExB, including a list of (minimally required) data elements and format, taking into account the required data protection aspects. TIRExB agreed that, for now, the electronic copy of the CoA would not replace the paper CoA, issued to the manufacturer, owner or operator of the vehicle and kept on the road vehicle (as stipulated by Annex 3, paragraph 3 of the Convention). (TIRExB/REP/2014/60, para. 16).

4. At its sixty-first session, the Board welcomed Informal document No. 34 (2014), containing a proposal by the secretariat to integrate the central database for CoA into the current International TIR Data Bank (ITDB) framework. TIRExB stressed that the main purpose of such international database would be its contribution to the overall computerization of the TIR procedure. It requested the secretariat to issue a revised version of the document for its next session while continuing, at the same time, to work towards the integration of the CoA database into the ITDB (TIRExB/REP/2014/61draft, para. 21).

5. Further to this request, the secretariat prepared this revision for consideration by the Board.
II. Proposal by the secretariat

6. The secretariat proposes to integrate the central database on CoA into the current International TIR Data Bank (ITDB) framework. This would ensure the reusability of the numerous features already developed for the database of authorized TIR Carnet holders.

a. Data transmission and consultation

7. The ITDBonline+ can be amended to enable the online consultation of CoA and could also be used for the manual transmission of the data contained in the certificates.

8. Furthermore, system-to-system exchanges of data (e.g. via web services) could be developed to allow for the automatic transmission of data from those administrations that have already implemented systems managing the procedures and the data related to CoA.

b. Procedure related to certificates of approval

9. Apart from verifying the content of the CoA, customs (competent authorities) are responsible for the following procedures:
   • Issuance of CoA;
   • Renewal of the CoA;
   • Notification of defects;
   • Acknowledgement of the rectification of defects.

c. List of data elements

10. According to the results of the survey, the majority of the Contracting Parties having partly or fully computerized the issuance and renewal of CoA keep record of all elements contained in the certificates, with the exception of the annexes.

11. The lists of data elements below show the data elements that would ideally be stored in the ITDB following the various procedures dealing with CoA.

(i) Issuance:
   • No of certificate ( alphanumeric);
   • Authority which has issued the certificate ( alphanumeric/ coded1);
   • Registration number ( alphanumeric);
   • Holder ( coded2) ( for unregistered vehicles only);
   • Type of vehicle ( alphanumeric/ coded3);
   • Trademark ( alphanumeric);
   • Individual or approval by design type ( indicator);

1 In line with TIRExB Informal document No. 7 (2013), the database on approved Customs offices will contain authorities dealing the issuance, renewal of CoA, as well as the rectification of defects.

2 Holder ID should be stored in the ITDB

3 UN/CEFACT code lists 8155 or 8053 (transport equipment type) could be used.
• Place of approval (alphanumeric/coded\(^4\));
• Date of approval (date and time);
• Valid until (date and time);
• Other particulars (alphanumeric).

(ii) Renewal:
• Valid until (date and time);
• Place (alphanumeric/coded);
• Date (date and time).

(iii) Notification of defects:
• Defects noted (coded\(^5\));
• Authority (alphanumeric/coded);
• Date (date and time).

(iv) Acknowledgement of the rectification of defects:
• Rectification of defects (alphanumeric\(^6\));
• Authority (alphanumeric/coded);
• Date (date and time).

d. Data storage and security

12. The central database on CoA should be stored within the ITDB.
13. The ITDBonline\(^+\) provides a secure authentication at two levels. The user is first asked for a username and password, and then the user needs to provide a security number located in a “security card”. The security card is provided by the TIR secretariat when an account is opened.
14. Similarly as for the database of authorized TIR Carnet holders, users will be granted different rights, depending on their roles.

e. Samples of interfaces

15. Figures 1 and 2 present sketches of possible interfaces for the date entry page for the issuance of a CoA and, respectively, a page allowing the consultation of a CoA.

---

\(^4\) UN/LOCODE could be used.
\(^5\) Codes are defined in ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2012/12/Rev.2
\(^6\) Depending on the actual use of box 11, this data element could be deleted.
Figure 1: Data entry page for the issuance of CoA
Figure 2: CoA view page
III. Further considerations by the Board

16. TIRExB may wish to consider this revision and confirm the mandate to the secretariat to continue working towards the development of the central database of CoA.