Summary

Symptom

There are unclarities concerning the procedure for importing new commodity codes and import code numbers into the R/3 system as well as concerning the relevant tools available.

Other terms

Commodity code, import code number, VI94, VE94, upload, data service, STAWN, T604, VEM4, VIM4, VA94, VP94, VAM4, VPM4, VEU4, VIU4, VEI4, VII4, RVEXREOR, RVEXSOVA, upload, comparison

Reason and Prerequisites

This is a consulting note.

Solution

When the authorities publish new and changed commodity codes or import code numbers (referred to as 'numbers' in the following), the following is required:

-   Importing the new numbers into Customizing

-   Removing the obsolete numbers from Customizing

-   Replacing the obsolete numbers with the new ones in the material master

-   Replacing the obsolete numbers with the new ones in the SD documents and MM documents

-   Using the correct numbers for the periodic declaration (for example, INTRASTAT) or in the form printout

The R/3 system provides programs for the automation of the first three points.
The following sections describe these programs and the general procedure (using new commodity codes for EU countries as an example).
In addition, you have the option to import numbers for non-EU countries or country-independent numbers into the R/3 system. The procedure is the same. You can find the available transactions in the following path of the SAP Easy Access menu:

'Logistics -> Sales and Distribution -> Foreign Trade/Customs -> Data Service -> Service -> Load/Compare'

1.   Importing the new numbers into Customizing

     Path: 'Logistics -> Sales and Distribution -> Foreign Trade/Customs -> Data Service -> Service -> Load/Compare -> European Union -> Load commodity code' (transaction VE94)

     Function:

New numbers are uploaded from a sequential source file into the R/3 system. Before the data records are inserted into the Customizing table (table T604) you can select the required numbers manually.

Handling:

Apart from the required specifications for the announcement of the source file format (start position, end position of the fields), the 'Prepare comparison' block deserves particular attention: select the 'Carry out preparations' checkbox, choose the enter pushbutton, and enter any 'Key for upload'. This key is required for the later data matchup.

After you execute the program, the system displays a list of the records available in your source file. Select the records required (normally all), and choose 'Insert'.

The system displays a dialog box asking you whether you want to overwrite existing data records that have an identical key (country, number).

The system inserts the new numbers into the relevant Customizing table (table T604) so that they are available in the R/3 system (Customizing transaction OVE1).

Comment:

The question arises how the 'Additional information' field is set in Customizing (field T604-NIHON) during the import. The logic is as follows:

o   Commodity codes are imported (VE94): NIHON = 2 (Dispatch / Export)

o   Import code numbers are imported (VI94): NIHON = 1 (Arrival / Import)

Special case: when a number is inserted and the system detects that an entry with an identical key already exists, the further procedure depends on how you confirm the dialog box that asks you whether you want to overwrite identical entries. If you confirm this dialog box with 'No', the system does not change the existing entry. If you confirm the dialog box with 'Yes', the system checks whether the 'Additional information' indicator of the old entry and the new entry are set differently. If this is the case, the system sets the 'Additional information' field to value 0 (Receipt / Import and Dispatch / Export).

2.   Replacing changed numbers in the material master

Path: 'Logistics -> Materials Management -> Material Master -> Material -> Mass Maintenance' (transaction MM17)

Function:

You can use this transaction to select and change materials with a specific commodity code. You can carry out the selection also for a

specific range of material numbers to change their commodity code/import code number centrally. You may have to execute the transaction several times with different selection parameters.

Handling:

On the 'Fields' tab page, select the row 'Comm/impCode' (field name MARC-STAWN).

Choose the menu option 'Mass maintenance -> Execute'.

On the next screen, you can restrict the selection individually. You can either select a large number of material master records and change the contents of the 'Comm/impCode' field for each of the records selected after you choose 'Mass maintenance -> Execute', or you can use the 'Choose selection fields' pushbutton to restrict the material selection to materials with an obsolete commodity code and to transfer the new commodity code to all selected records aterwards. After you save, the system carries out the change in the material master.

(For more information about the mass maintenance of material masters, see the documentation).

3. Replacing the old numbers with the new ones in the SD documents and MM documents

    There is no program available for this step. The following problem must be considered: in general, the updated numbers are only valid as of an exactly defined time; however, in Customizing there are no validity periods defined for the numbers. This means (for example, for INTRASTAT) that you have to report the old numbers for the previous month and the new numbers for the current month and that there are declaration-relevant documents with old numbers (created before the update of the numbers in the material masters) as well as documents with new numbers (created after the update of the numbers in the material masters). This can hardly be avoided even if you import the numbers exactly at the validity start date of the new numbers. To avoid a combination of old and new numbers in the INTRASTAT declaration (which is not accepted by the authorities according to experience), additional measures are required for a transitional period. You have the following options:

    o   Selection and manual maintenance of the existing documents with obsolete numbers

    o   Manual correction of the INTRASTAT data using transaction VEFU (after the selection run, before the file creation)

    o   Use of user exits to convert old numbers to new numbers:

        Periodic declarations: EXIT_SAPLV50G_001 or EXIT_SAPLV50G_002

        Print programs: EXIT_SAPLV55E_001

4. Removing the old numbers from Customizing

Path: 'Logistics -> Sales and Distribution -> Foreign Trade/Customs ->
Data Service -> Service -> Load/Compare -> European Union -> Compare
commodity codes' (transaction VEM4)

You should carry out this activity after a certain amount of time if
the system still contains some 'active' documents (that is, documents
that are still being changed or further processed) with obsolete
numbers because otherwise an error message may occur in the document
processing due to the field check for the commodity code because the
value table does not contain the number (any longer) (of course, such
a system response may be required to cause the user to change the
number in the document; in this case, you can delete the obsolete
numbers immediately after the import of the new numbers).

Function:

Old numbers that are no longer required are removed from the
Customizing table (T604). You have the option to manually preselect
the numbers to be deleted.

Handling:

On the selection screen, specify the key that you selected during the
upload of the numbers. The system lists the numbers of the Customizing
table that do not exist in the newly imported data cluster (that is,
numbers that are probably obsolete).

Now you can select the numbers to be deleted from the system.

As soon as you choose 'Complete', the system removes the selected data
records from the Customizing table. The comparison is completed, and
the system deletes the index file ('Key for upload').

Comments:

o   In general, the sequential file with the new numbers is provided by
    the national statistics authorities or customs authorities.

o   NEVER call the programs directly using transaction SE38 but always
    use the transaction code or the SAP Easy Access menu because the
    internal control of the program flow depends on the transaction
    code.

o   You have also the option to import new numbers into the system
    using the 'Import customs data' function by IDoc in the EDI format.
    To do this, extensive preparations and system settings are
    required. This note will not provide any further information about
    this option.

Header Data

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Primary Component:	SD-FT-PRO Basic Functions

The Note is release-independent

Related Notes

Number	Short Text
716183	Upload commodity code/import code: NIHON indicator incorrect
607675	Incomplete input help for commodity code
303984	Correct use of EXIT_SAPLV50G_001 and EXIT_SAPLV50G_002