

CodSP-100-LVA
the National Codification Bureau of Latvia
July 2015



THE NATIONAL CODIFICATION BUREAU OF LATVIA

1. AIMS and FUNCTIONS

The National Codification Bureau of Latvia was established within the Department of Procurement, Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Latvia to initiate, develop, control and coordinate the implementation of the NATO Codification System (NCS) in the Latvian Armed Forces and Ministry of Defence. At the moment Latvian NCB is located within the Department on Material Supply, State Centre for Defence Military Sites and Procurement

The Latvian NCB is the only organization authorized to codify items of supply, assign NATO Commercial and Governmental Entity (NCAGE) codes and exchange codification data with other National Codification Bureaus.

- The main duties of the Latvian NCB are as follows:
- International collaboration in Codification area (AC/135; Panel A)
- Planning and elaboration National Codification Strategy regarding NATO codification Policy
- International co-operation with NAMSA and other Codification Bureau's
- Maintain the Total Item Record and administer the automated Codification Tool ADAGIO
- Identification / Codification nationally manufactured items of supply
- Customer liaison
- Translates International Codification Standards (ACodP-1, H2, H6)
- Assignments and maintenance of national NCAGEs
- Registration the NSN for items of supply operated by NAF and produced in other countries.
- Approval procedure of existing NATO standards
- Collaboration with Latvian Terminology agencies and Civilian standards agencies

2. ORGANIZATION

The Latvian National Codification Bureau has a name Military Materially-Technical Resources Research and Encoding Section and is within the Department on Material Supply of the State Centre for Defence Military Sites and Procurement.

The Latvian NCB works in close cooperation with the Logistic Command of the National Armed Forces and the Communications and Information Technology Department of the Ministry of Defence.

Latvian NCB currently has employs 3 employees - civilians) and MC CATALOGUE system Latvian module manager in Communications and Information Technology Department.

- NCB Director (Head of Military Materially-Technical Resources Research and Encoding Section)
 - Codification of items & LSA maters

- Planning and elaboration National Codification Strategy
- International collaboration in Codification area
- International co-operation with NAMSA and other Codification Bureau's
- Codifier
 - Codification of items & NCAGE management
- Codifier
 - Codification of items & LSA maters
- System administrator (Communications and Information Technology Department)
 - Maintain the Total Item Record and administer the automated Codification Tool MC CATALOGUE.
 - International collaboration in Codification area (Panel A, Technical issues regarding NCS)

3. HISTORY

- 1999, First AC/135 meeting in Battle Creek.
- 2000, A National Codification Authority was established within the Procurement Department of the Ministry of Defence.
- 2001, signed the AC/135 Sponsorship Agreement and BASELOG Subscription Agreement.
- 2002, Latvia –Tier 1 level country.
- 2003, Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the French NCB within the framework of AC/135 program BASELOG and ADAGIO codification tool operation agreement with the French NCB,
- 2003, Creation of first national NSN
- Establishment Military Materially-Technical Resorces Encoding and Standardisation Section, end of 2004
- Latvia-NATO member country, 2004

4. CODIFICATION TOOL

The codification software used by the Latvian NCB is MC CATALOGUE (Materiel Codification Catalogue) – a smart web-based tool for easy and user-friendly materiel codification according to the NATO Codification System standards supporting activities of National Codification Bureaus (NCB). It supports all necessary functions specified in the ACodP-1 NATO Manual on Codification, like assigning an item name, item classification, reference or descriptive identification, creation and maintenance of national NCAGEs, and electronic data exchange among NCBs via the NMBS.

MC CATALOGUE is provided by AURA in the form of Software as a Service (SaaS), the application runs on AURA's cloud server and its administration including data backup is fully in AURA's responsibility.

MC CATALOGUE has been developed by the Czech company AURA, s.r.o. that also developed Information System for Logistics for the Czech Armed Forces. The system is in operational use at National Codification Bureaus (NCB) in more than ten NATO and non-NATO countries. MC CATALOGUE is ready for interfacing with other logistic or economic information systems, such as SAP, or Oracle ERP IS.

Software Architecture:

MC CATALOGUE is developed in the multi-tier client / server architecture. It supports access to the application server from any computer connected to the same network. It is also possible to operate the application from any equipment connected to the Internet. Thus a user can view and modify catalogue items remotely via the Internet or intranet. A standard web browser on the client's equipment is sufficient and no client software installation is needed. The application supports high security features and standards including PKI (Public Key Infrastructure).

MC CATALOGUE is developed in the high-tech JAVA technology Java EE (Java Enterprise Edition), with multi-lingual graphical user interface. Several smart standards technologies are implemented in MC CATALOGUE, such as Ajax, JSP, JSF, JDBC, XML, Spring framework, JPA, Tomcat application server, Load-balancing and others.

Capabilities offered by MC CATALOGUE:

Item codification – ensures support for the codification of items of supply; makes it possible to perform reference and descriptive identification according to the NCS principles defined in ACodP-1 and to assign temporary or permanent NSN.

Screening – creating basic queries for catalogue items, references, NMCRL items and item characteristics with subsequent display or printing of all significant data on a specific item.

Integrated NMCRL – allows import of the NATO Master Catalogue of References for Logistics (NMCRL) distributed by NSPA in the format of "raw data", the users can browse the NMCRL data directly in MC CATALOGUE without necessity to leave the application.

International data exchange – renders possible to create individual requests for a codification service, automatic processing of input and output transactions received, with minimal user interaction, data exchange between countries via the NATO Mailbox System (NMBS) using NATO Data Exchange (NADEX) and XML standards.

Reports and statistics – allows creation of graphical reports, provides statistical data for annual and biannual NATO AC/135 forms No. 9, ESR1, ESR2, etc.

Cataloguing projects – this process enables to import and maintain the lists of spare parts (items of supply) for new equipment.

National data – supports an electronic data exchange between the NCB and external codifiers (codification agencies, manufacturers, suppliers) and contains implementation of an interface to other information systems.

MCC eOTD – a module package based on the eOTD, ISO 8000 and ISO 22745 international standards for data quality management, and a standardized data exchange with suppliers and manufacturers.

Batch processes – batch tasks for data migration (H-SERIES tables, constant tables, items, Master Requirements Directory – MRD, etc.), and for bulk data exchange with other IS (budget and finance, contracting, civil defence, decision support system for logistic resource planning, etc.).

Tables – renders possible to maintain NCS and system tables interactively.

Administration (Service) – makes it possible to include and update user data, assign users into groups, define access rights for users and configure the application.

5. DATA SEGMENTS

The MC CATALOGUE system currently uses the following data segments:

- SEG A – Item Identification
- SEG B – MOE Rule Data
- SEG C – Reference Number Data
- SEG E – Standardization Code
- SEG G – Freight Data (inactive for Latvian NCB)
- SEG H – Item Supplementary Data
- SEG V - Characteristics Data
- SEG W- Packaging Data (inactive for Latvian NCB)
- As well as the segment for national item technical specifications and item drawings or pictures attachment.

6. BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Currently Latvia has valid bilateral agreements with France, Germany, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom.

7. PUBLICATIONS

The Latvian NCB is responsible for development and distribution of codification related publications. Latvian NCB has developed and distributes the following national publications:

- NATO Codification System Guide for Logisticians
- National Codification Manual (based on ACodP-1)

8. DATABASE

July 2015 the Total Item Record (TIR) consists of over 11336 NSN (Type 1 identification – 5123 NSN; Type 1A - 156 NSN; Type 1B-5 NSN; Type 4 – 2807 NSN and Type 2 Identification - 2741 NSN) and 530 active NCAGEs. Information about Latvian manufacturers and their production codified by the Latvian NCB is included in NATO catalogue CD NMCRL.