TRA/X v6.0 Release Notes

Content

Introduction

This document contains information on the changes between TRA/X v5.1#A05 and TRA/X v6.0.

Application – New Modules

Preferential

This module can be used to determine whether a product qualifies for Preferential Treatment when there is a Trade Agreement in place between the two countries involved in a transaction (Note:- Preferential Treatment implies that the product can be imported at a reduced or nil rate of duty). It achieves this by applying the Preferential Rules of Origin, specified in the relevant Trade Agreement, to the manufacturing Bill of Material for the product.

The initial release of the module does not include any Trade Agreements as content however this is being actively considered.

Note:- The majority of the EU Trade Agreements have been entered into the system and though this content is not available as an out of box solution it can be made available as part of consultancy on setup and configuration.

New Computerised Transit System (NCTS)

NCTS is an EU initiative that requires transit movements to be electronically reported. There are a number of EDI messages that must be exchanged and the message structure is identical across EU states. The method of communication in each state can differ.

TRA/X can produce and process the messages used for outbound shipments (exports).

It makes use of Highway for sending and receiving the messages. It currently supports sending and receiving the messages via email, a method supported by HMCE (UK customs).

It supports the production of the Transit Accompanying Document (TAD) and the List of Items document with the reference appearing as a barcode. TRA/X utilises BarSimm chips for the production of barcodes on laser printers.

The NCTS module has been designed and developed to ensure that it can be implemented with v6.0 or v5.1.

Application - Enhancments

General

Classification Groups

There is a change in the way that Commodity (Schedule B) and Harmonised Tariff(HTS) codes are handled within the system. A single table (xmcmod0) is used to store both and they are distinguished by a classification group. This improves support for maintaining the Schedules in use in different countries e.g. EU countries use the TARIC while the US uses Schedule B for classifying exports.

A product can be classified under multiple Schedules and based on the country of destination/origin of a transaction the relevant code can be assigned to the transaction item line.

The fields sicmod and siharm on the shipment item table (xmsitm0) previously labelled 'Commodity Code' and 'Harmonised Code' are now labelled 'Commodity Code 1' and Commodity Code 2'. The sicmod (Commodity Code 1) field is populated with the relevant Classification Code based on the transaction type i.e. Export or Import. Previously Export type transactions populated sicmod and Import type transaction populated siharm.

All the tables that previously stored either a harmonised or commodity code have been changed so that they now also store the classification group type. Both fields are required to identify the Classification Code master record.

This change also had an effect in compliance and this is discussed with the compliance section of the document.

If upgrading from previous versions of TRA/X it will be necessary to carry out a data conversion. This will be handled as part of the upgrade process.

User Defined Lookups Standardised

It is possible for User Defined Lookups to look and behave in a similar manner to normal lookups i.e. prompt button available, F4 key active. The behaviour is controlled by a System Value (Y2/SYSTEM > PROMPTS_FOR_UDEFINED_LOOKUPS with values of ALL for all fields or a list of comma separated screen names, i.e. SH02, SHSH0402, etc.

User Define Lookup Domains

The length specified when setting up domains is enforced when maintaining entries.

Dynamic Sub Options

The buttons on list panels that provide quick access to the sub options can be configured per option i.e. the user can add ‘quick access’ buttons for sub options to a list panel.

Shipment Interface – Consolidating Transactions

It is now possible to include any fields from the shipment item(xmsitm0) record in the lists of fields to be checked for determining whether transactions can be consolidated i.e. in the ‘UNIQUE SHIPMENT ITEM FIELDS’ system value.

XML Upload – Update subset of fields

It is possible to update a subset of fields when updating a record. This is based on a setting in the XML file. In earlier versions when a record was updated all the fields were reset to their default values and the fields contained in the XML were uploaded. If the setting is not specified it will work as previously. This enhancement is available for v5.1 and v6.0

Macro Upload/Form Overlay Update

It is possible to upload the macros associated with a document from the DO screen. It will upload all macros associated with the document.

ePage is the application launched when you choose to edit a form overlay from within TRA/X. In addition a button has been provided on the document maintenance screen to launch ePage to modify the form overlays associated with the document.

URL links - PDF Documents

It is possible to include URL links in PDF documents produced by TRA/X. This allows documents to be emailed from TRA/X with direct links to Web Pages. An example of where this could be useful would be to include on a Packing List per pack a link to a Web Page that provides tracking information.

Shipment Filter (SH)

The filter now allows for searching on Package tracking number.

Rule Book Rules List Panel

The user define fields are shown on the list panel as they can be used as filters.

Shipment Rules

The user define fields are shown on the maintenance panel as they can be used as filters.

Reports/Inquiry – Reset Fields

There is a new button on report and inquiry parameter cards to allow the fields to be reset to their default values.

Shipment History Report

A new parameter for shipment status has been added. It allows the report to be run for All, Open, or Closed shipments.

eMail Address Size Increased

The length of the email address field has been increased.

Documents – Multiple Language Support (MLS)

The MLS functionality has been extended to cover country names included in the detail area of a document.

Compliance

Commodity/HS Code Check Categories

The following checks have been removed due to the change in the way commodity and HS codes are handled

CMCT	Commodities / Countries EX
CMNR	Commodities / Partners EX,IM
HACT	HS Codes / Countries EX
HANR	HS Codes / Partners EX,IM
ICMC	Commodities / Countries IM
IHAC	HS Codes / Countries IM

They have been replaced with the following checks that give the same functionality

C1FC	Commodities / COOs IM
C1FP	Commodities / Partners IM
C1TC	Commodities / CODs EX
C1TP	Commodities / Partners EX
C2FC	Commodities / COOs EX
C2TC	Commodities / CODs IM

EXCT - ECCN / Countries

This is a new check category. The check can be used to stop products being shipped to the listed countries based on their ECCN classification.

Data Integrity Checks

This new category allows the transaction data to be interrogated and for anomalies to be identified. It has been designed in such a way that it can be easily expanded to include additional checks in the base product or for specific customer requirements to be addressed. The checks provided as standard are;

PARTNER_VALID_ISO	This validates that all the partners associated with the transaction have a valid country code associated with them. If the partner address has been overridden on the transaction it checks the country on the override otherwise it checks the country on the partner master. It validates that the country exists on the country master and that on the country master it has an ISO country code assigned.

PRODUCT_VALID_COO	This validates that the country of origin on the item line or if not specified on the item line the country of origin from the product master exists on the country master table and that it has the ISO country code field populated on the country master.
PRODUCT_VALID_ECCN_EXP	This validates that the products on the item lines have a valid ECCN classification code for the country of despatch of the transaction or if not specified, the country of origin of the transaction.
PRODUCT_VALID_ECCN_US	This validates that the products on the item lines have a valid US ECCN classification assigned.
PRODUCT_VALID_HTS	This validates the commodity code 1 and 2 on the transaction lines exist on the commodity master table.
PRODUCT_VALID_HTS_GROUP	This validates that the commodity group 1 and 2 on the transactions lines exist and that they are the same for all item lines on the transaction.

Questionnaires

The system provides the ability for questionnaires to be setup and to validate that the questionnaires have been completed before a transaction can pass compliance. Different types of questions can be setup with the expected answers and whether the question should be answered at a master or transaction level.

At a master level the questions can be associated with all partner roles, specific partner roles, specific partners, all products or specific products and must be answered accordingly e.g. if a question is configured for all partner roles then the question must be answered for all partners. These questions are answered in advance of transaction processing.

The transaction level questions can only be answered when processing the transaction.

The questionnaires can be assigned to transactions based on shipment type.

This feature can be used amongst other things to support C-TPAT and End Use questions.

Licence & Licence Exceptions

The system has improved support for licensing as the licence information for the US and EU can be provided as content. When using the content the system will determine whether a licence is required based on the ECCN or sub ECCN classification of the product being shipped.

It caters for licence exceptions and if there are any licence exceptions available these will be made known to the user. It provides support for LVS exceptions and keeps a running total of usage.

The system allows multiple licences to be associated with an item line. This is required so that complete licence amounts are used. e.g. item line value of $1000, licence A has $300 remaining and licence B has $20000. The system will allow part of the line to be allocated against licence A and the remainder against licence B.

DPL Checking - Performance

The performance of the DPL checking has been improved. This has been achieved by caching the DPL lists the first time that a DPL check is carried out within a session.

DPL Checking – White List

This is the ability to inform the system of incorrect matches (false positives) so that they do not appear as matches the next time the partner is checked against the DPL. The system will remember that the partner is not a match for specific DPL entries and will not show them as matches. It will continue to check the partner against all other DPL entries. The matches are permanent and will remain after DPL uploads unless of course the entry was removed from the DPL. The incorrect matches can be reset for partners if required.

DPL Checking – General

The system can be configured to determine whether the Subset Check should take place.

The system can be configured to determine the minimum length a word in a name or address should be when deciding if it should check the full details. In v5.1 this was set to four, the default for v6 is one but it can be set in a system value.

Background Re-Checking

There is a new feature available to allow re-checking to be carried out in the background. The concept behind this is that a number of transactions could fail for a particular reason e.g. a questionnaire for a carrier was not completed. Rather than having to manually rerun compliance on each of the failed transactions, the background process could carry this out on your behalf.

Notifications

It is possible to configure at a check level who should be informed if it fails. Previously this was at an overall compliance level. In addition it is possible to specify individuals who should be informed but it is also possible to specify a partner role that should be informed.

Results Screen

The time a check was carried out or an override was entered is stored and displayed on the results screen.

The date and time are stamped at the check category level as well as the individual check and this is displayed at the category level.
A button is available to give access to a URL when viewing results of licence checks (ECLI, EXCT). In addition there is another button available to bring up the ECCN information stored in TRA/X for these particular checks.

Compliance Checks History

The current status for each category is displayed at the top level and this is colour coded to indicate whether the category has always passed, has passed now but failed a previous run, is failed now but passed previously.

Update Workflow Compliance Status Task

When a compliance process is kicked off from within Workflow it can be configured to update a specific task with the results. However when initiated from outside the Workflow environment (e.g. an interface) it was not possible to specify that a Workflow task should be updated. This is now possible.

Manual Overrides – JDE

When a compliance result is manually overridden in TRA/X the system can be configured to provide the information to the JDE Interface to allow the transaction to be updated in JDE.

Workflow

Multiple Row Copy & Paste

The standard functionality on TRA/X List Panels of choosing multiple rows and copying and pasting to other applications is available on the Workflow panel.

Failed Tasks – Date, Time & User update

When a task is executed and it fails the date, time, and user are updated and displayed.

Multiple Diary Message Delete

It is possible to delete multiple diary messages together i.e. highlight more than one message and delete.

Available Options Caching

The available options are cached when the tab is accessed rather than when workflow is started. This speeds up the initial opening of the workflow screen.

New Task

There is a new task available that allows a document to be opened, a folder to be opened, a URL to be opened, or an external program executed.

Task Categories

When creating a Workflow it is now possible to categorise the tasks. This affects the way in which the task window is displayed in Workflow. Rather than a single list of tasks there will be a tab for each category containing the tasks associated with it. The system can be configured to determine the users that can see particular category tabs, the title for each category tab and the order in which the category tabs appear. Specific uses of this would be; to allow less frequently used tasks to be removed from the normal process, to restrict access to tasks to certain users or groups of users (e.g. task that transmits information to customs).

New Export System (NES)

The solution has been expanded to include support for Export Refund transactions and support for Local Clearance Procedure (LCP).

The NES enhancements can be implemented with v6.0 or v5.1.

Highway Adapters

There have been adapters provided to facilitate communication between TRA/X and Highway.

The sending adapter supports two methods of exchanging messages; either a HTTP Post or writing directly to a JMS queue. It allows for asynchronous and synchronous communication.

The receiving adapter supports JMS queues only. The communication can be asynchronous or synchronous.

These adapters are available to be implemented with v5.1 or v6.0.

ePage - Form Maintenance

ePage is an application developed by PSL that can be used instead of JetForm to design and maintain forms (document overlays). It is possible to import forms previously created in JetForm and to maintain them in ePage. The application is a separate product and you should contact PSL for further information.

It is now the default application launched when you choose to edit a form from within TRA/X.

It is compatible with earlier versions of TRA/X.

Small Parcel System (SPS)

This module is constantly being updated to provide support for additional carriers and services. This document does not include information on these developments and you should contact PSL for details on currently supported carriers.

HTML Front-end

The functionality required for a Packing/Shipping station is now available to run in a browser with a HTML front-end. This includes packing, label printing and rating. This requires consultancy for installation and implementation.

Returns

A new screen and additional functionality have been added to cater for the Returns services offered by the carriers.

Hazardous Goods per pack

It is now possible to specify hazardous information at a pack level to facilitate the shipping of hazardous goods via the parcel carriers. There has been an interface built between TRA/X and a system provided by a HazMatSoftware group to support the UPS certification requirements.

Carrier Rating Screen

- LTL Charge Tables can be processed as routes.
- The location field is a lookup to the Deliver-To partner type.
- The customer and consignee name & address can be overridden with the option of copying the consignee address to the customer address.

End of Day

The ability to send email messages when failures are encountered.

Freight Calculations

It is possible to configure uplifts using System Values.

The SPS module has been designed and developed to ensure that it can be implemented with v6.0 or v5.1.

Technical

Progress Minimum Requirements

Progress Client (All Platforms – Windows & Unix) - 9.1D07
Progress Enterprise Database Server – 9.1D07
Progress Workgroup Database Server – 9.1D07
Progress MS/SQL Server DataServer – 9.1D07
Progress Oracle DataServer – 9.1D07
Progress/400 DataServer – 9.1C

Progress Databases (Windows & Unix)

The TRA/X Progress database supplied as standard is UTF8 (Unicode compliant). If creating a new database from scratch the empty UTF database must be used. The empty UTF database will be found in the $DLC\prolang\utf\ folder and is called empty. The following is a sample command to create a new empty database

```
prodb xttraxmu /progress/9.1d/prolong/utf/empty
```

TRA/X Objects/Folders

There is a single set of objects for Progress databases regardless of database platform (Windows or Unix variants). The *nt* and *unix* folders have been replaced with a single folder called *prog*.

Progress Libraries

The object code is released in Progress libraries. This drastically reduces the number of files contained in the TRA/X object folders. There may be performance increases in some configurations but the reason for the change is to facilitate configuration management both internally and externally. The existing folder structure has been kept intact with the libraries being placed within them. The library names also contain information about the version and patch level e.g. __v60app.pl – this refers to the base v6 application folder.

The use of Progress libraries is compatible with the previous method used i.e. not all objects have to be in a library. The position of the libraries in the propath will be used to determine the version of the object to use. The library name must be specified in the propath for the objects to be considered.

Sample propath that includes customer modifications at the top

```
x:\trax.60\_cust\app,
x:\trax.60\_\prog\apptsp\_v60apptsp.pl,
x:\trax.60\_\prog\app\_v60app.pl,
x:\trax.60\_\prog\appaud\_v60appaud.pl,
x:\trax.60\__\prog\apptsp\__v60apptsp.pl
x:\trax.60\__\prog\app\__v60app.pl
x:\trax.60\__\prog\appaud\__v60appaud.pl
```

Note in this example the customer folder name is specified and not a Progress library.

See Progress documentation for further information on Libraries.

Startup Parameters

Additional Progress Client and Server Startup parameters are included as standard. A brief description of each is included below. For a more detailed description refer to the Progress documentation.

-Mm (Message Buffer Size)

This is a client and a server parameter and specifies the message buffer size between the client and the server. As the TRA/X record sizes can be large it is a good idea to set this to a large size. For platforms other than AS/400 the –Mm specified for the server must match that specified on the client otherwise the client will return an error message and will not start. This setting has greatly improved performance in a number of existing sites and is highly recommended that it is used.

-Bt (Buffer size for temporary tables)

This is a client parameter and controls the size of the buffer that should be used for temporary tables. As TRA/X makes extensive use of temporary tables this parameter should be considered for all implementations. It can be particularly useful for sessions that call the DPL Screen check in compliance and also for any processes that run continually e.g. interface.

-TB (Speed Sort) & -TM (Merge Number)

These parameters can help with the performance of sorting temporary tables. Increasing the number will mean potentially more memory usage during sorts.

-D (Directory Size)

This refers to the number of compiled procedure directory entries that should be stored as a default.

Installation Tool (INST)

An ‘Action’ XML can be included with a package to be uploaded by the tool. This XML can contain the name of a program to be run with up to five parameters specified (the called program must accept five parameters). It is also possible to provide a Progress query and the action to be performed for the query, currently Delete is the only action supported. For further information refer to log 200332903.