UCC Navigator – A New Innovative Tool That Helps to Overcome EU Customs Legislation Complexity

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Picture from www.uccnavigator.com

Introduction

The world in which customs legislation operates is increasingly complex and, consequently, customs legislation itself tends to get quite complex, especially when it is intended to operate across several jurisdictions. Legislative complexity has long been an issue in the field of Customs. Complex customs legislation (and complex legislation in general) uses valuable resources due to the increased time taken by courts, advisers, administrators, the private sector operators involved in cross-border trade and the general public in reading and understanding the legislation.



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Following the introduction of the Union Customs Code (UCC), the public and private sectors have been looking for a smart way to navigate the complexity of the UCC, which must be read in conjunction with the Delegated Act, the Transitional Delegated Act and the Implementing Act

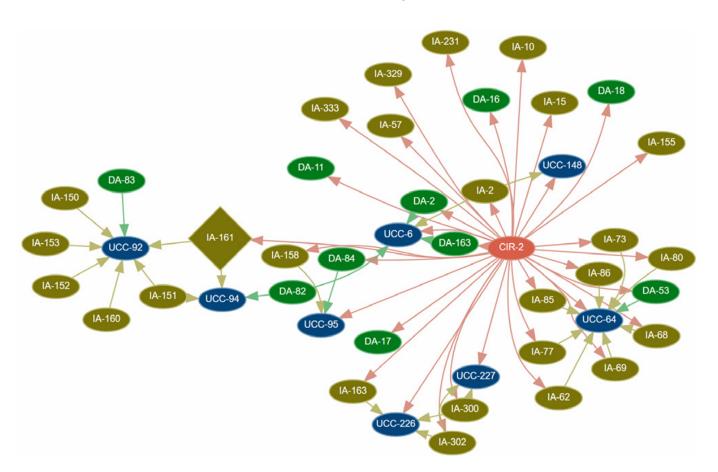
to gain a proper understanding and interpretation of the legal provisions. This task is greatly simplified through the use of new interactive web-based tool called UCC Navigator®, which has been developed by the Centre for Customs and Excise Studies (CCES) at Charles Sturt University in collaboration with a leading software developer, Vivid Thought.

The Tool

This innovative online tool, which is available in 23 languages, provides a visual overview of the linkages between the various provisions of the UCC and related legislation through the use of smart interactive infographics. The UCC Navigator is being continually updated to reflect the latest amendments in EU customs law. It is extremely user-friendly and enables the user to:

- Navigate the EU Customs law with ease
- Instantly see how articles influence and are influenced by related legislation
- Instantaneously locate topics covered by the legislation
- Conduct searches and view legislation in multiple languages
- Switch between languages on any search or content page
- Access search results in the context in which they appear in the legislation
- Receive a visual overview of legislative linkages via interactive infographics
- Click on articles in the graphics to navigate linked articles of legislation, or simply hover over them for more information

Figure 1: A visual overview of legislative linkages through interactive infographics. Source: UCC Navigator.



Users

UCC Navigator provides significant benefits for a range of both public and private sector organizations. For example, government agencies such as customs and VAT administrations are able to streamline their legal research procedures, facilitate decision making and encourage the use of UCC Navigator to improve informed compliance.

Traders and service providers are able to readily locate the legislative provisions that affect their business and minimize the risk of non-compliance leading to penalties and unplanned interruptions to trade. Similarly, professional and industry associations are able to provide their members with thoroughly researched advice quickly, efficiently and with confidence, and consultants are able to provide advice to their clients more quickly, efficiently and with greater confidence.

Topic: electronic customs systems; novel solutions and technologies; digitalisation

Market: EU - European Union

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