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Supply chain interoperability and integration —

Part 120: Verification of data in support of local purchasing

Interopérabilité et intégration dans la chaîne d'approvisionnement —

Partie 120: Vérification des données à l'appui de la localisation d'achat

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CP 401 • CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
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Introduction

At its most basic, labour and materials come together at a facility to create products and waste as illustrated in Figure 1.

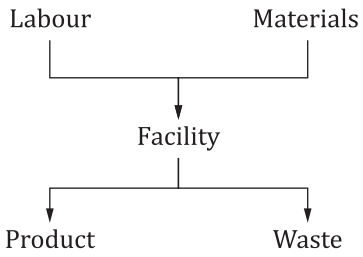


Figure 1 — Basic production process

For materials, products, or services to be legally exchanged, they must be identified and described. In addition, for the purposes of supply chain management, the physical location of the origin of materials or products and the performance of services and the location of the legal entity controlling the production or distribution process both need to be taken into consideration. This is enabled by an international facility identifier (IFI) that captures both by combining the ISO 8000-116 formatted international business registration number (IBRN) of the legal entity responsible for the operation of the facility, followed by a pipe character (U+0007C) as a separator, and then the ISO 8000-118 formatted natural location identifier (NLI) of the facility. The ISO 8000-115 prefix for this identifier is ISO.IFI which is then followed by a colon and the IFI.

Location is important in respect to compliance with government regulations but also to insurance and local taxation. Insurance relies on location to determine liability. For example, in the case of a pallet being moved from a warehouse into a waiting truck, the threshold of the loading dock is the point of demarcation: when the pallet crosses the point of demarcation legal liability for damage to the content of the pallet is transferred from the insurer of warehouse to the insurer of the truck.

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The best practice in purchasing is to buy an item at the lowest total cost including taxes, fees, and transportation. There are many other and frequently competing factors that need to be taken into consideration in creating a cost effective and resilient supply chain that minimizes the short term or longer-term risks associated with the potential for supply chain disruption. One of these considerations is government local purchasing requirements. As part of their economic development or security strategies, many governments seek to encourage the sourcing of goods and services from local suppliers and occasionally from specific socioeconomic categories of suppliers (small business, minority, women or veteran owned businesses). Governments can also control or influence international purchasing through the imposition of sanctions, tariffs and quotas as well as non-tariff barriers that can be applied not only to countries but also to specific geographic regions or to specific suppliers.

Global trade is regulated through multilateral trade agreements. The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) provided the rules for much of world trade from 1948 to 1994 and the World Trade Organization (WTO), created on 1995-01-01, expanded the GATT that mainly dealt with trade in goods, to cover trade in services and intellectual property.

There are two concepts that are central to the WTO: first, the country of origin and, secondly, the World Customs Organization (WCO) harmonized system (HS) codes.

a) Rules of origin: Country of origin for a product is dictated by a set of laws, regulations, and administrative procedures, and a customs authority's origin ruling can affect whether a shipment is subject to a quota, eligible for preferential tariff treatment, or impacted by anti-dumping measures. The rules are not all the same across countries. See "Rules of Origin"[9] and "Technical Information on Rules of Origin" [10] from WTO.

b) Harmonized system: The World Customs Organization created an international classification system using six-digit codes, enabling participating countries to categorize traded items in the same way.

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