



European Network of  
Transmission System Operators  
for Electricity

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# THE ENERGY IDENTIFICATION CODING SCHEME (EIC) REFERENCE MANUAL

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2017-06-01

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VERSION 5.2

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21 **NOTE CONCERNING WORDING USED IN THIS DOCUMENT**

22 The force of the following words is modified by the requirement level of the document in which  
23 they are used.

- 24 • SHALL: This word, or the terms "REQUIRED" or "MUST", means that the definition is an  
25 absolute requirement of the specification.
- 26 • SHALL NOT: This phrase, or the phrase "MUST NOT", means that the definition is an absolute  
27 prohibition of the specification.
- 28 • SHOULD: This word, or the adjective "RECOMMENDED", means that there may exist valid  
29 reasons in particular circumstances to ignore a particular item, but the full implications shall  
30 be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course.
- 31 • SHOULD NOT: This phrase, or the phrase "NOT RECOMMENDED", means that there may  
32 exist valid reasons in particular circumstances when the particular behaviour is acceptable or  
33 even useful, but the full implications should be understood and the case carefully weighed  
34 before implementing any behaviour described with this label.
- 35 • MAY: This word, or the adjective "OPTIONAL", means that an item is truly optional. One  
36 vendor may choose to include the item because a particular marketplace requires it or because  
37 the vendor feels that it enhances the product while another vendor may omit the same item.  
38 An implementation which does not include a particular option SHALL be prepared to  
39 interoperate with another implementation which does include the option, though perhaps with  
40 reduced functionality. In the same vein an implementation which does include a particular  
41 option SHALL be prepared to interoperate with another implementation which does not include  
42 the option (except, of course, for the feature the option provides.).

43

## Revision History

Version	Release	Date	Paragraphs	Comments
1	0	2001-05-24		Initial publication.
2	0	2002-06-20		Correction to remove the use of the asterisk character (*) in the EIC code since it could be used in a filename.
3	0	2004-09-30	Section 1 Section 3 Annex 4 Annex 5 Annex 6	Update of the introduction section to bring it into line with the current situation to define the new EIC code type "W" for units. Specify more responsibilities for the CIOs and additional responsibilities for the LIOs. Modify the DTD to incorporate the EIC Responsible Party and to provide explanatory text. Explanation of the use of the EIC parent. Explanation of the use of the EIC Responsible Party.
4	0	2005-05-11		General revamping of the document to incorporate the extension of the coding system to the energy market, to permit the EIC code to be used locally as well as nationally and to detail the use of the balance group object type.
5	0	2015-06-18	All	Restructuring of the Reference Manual, to clarify the content along with the introduction of legally clear information.
5	1	2016-02-15	3.1.2, 3.2.3	Redraft the rules for LIOs which are involved in the issuance of EIC participants and its assets which are in different country.
5	2	2017-06-01	5.4	Add description/constraints on additional attributes.

44

45

## References

46 All the documentation about the EIC coding scheme is available on the EIC website  
47 ([www.eiccodes.eu](http://www.eiccodes.eu))

48 In particular, the following information is provided:

- 49 a) The EIC reference manual
- 50 b) The EIC implementation guide
- 51 c) The EIC list of functions
- 52 d) The list of EIC Local Issuing Offices
- 53 e) The list of EIC codes in the central registry

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## 96 1 Introduction

97 Electronic data interchange (EDI) in the European energy market requires a common identification  
98 scheme to be effective. EIC Participants (traders, producers, qualified consumers, etc.) have the  
99 possibility to act in different market areas. System operators have to exchange information  
100 amongst themselves as well as with other EIC Participants. In addition there are many other  
101 objects that require identification for information interchange to be successful (tie lines, resource  
102 objects, etc.). In order to provide such functionality a reliable identification scheme is a necessity.

103 The non-exhaustive list of objects that need to be identified are:

- 104 • System operators, traders, producers, consumers, power exchanges, grid operators,  
105 suppliers, agents, service providers, etc.
- 106 • Local grids where metering points are situated, market balance areas consisting of a number  
107 of local grids, control areas, etc.
- 108 • Cross border connections, metering points, settlement or accounting points, etc.
- 109 • Any object that generates, or consumes energy.
- 110 • The physical lines that connect adjacent market (balance) areas or internal lines within an  
111 area.
- 112 • The physical or logical places where an identified object or the IT system of an identified  
113 object is or could be located.
- 114 • Substations for electrical nodes (stations, passive nodes, etc.).

115 ENTSO-E consequently introduced an identification scheme, which provided an easy migration  
116 path for existing national schemes, in a format that makes it suitable for general electronic data  
117 interchange. The resulting Energy Identification Coding scheme - EIC - is described in the rest of  
118 this reference manual.

119 EIC codes are necessary for ENTSO-E, ENTSOG and actors of the energy market to fulfil their  
120 obligations pursuant to:

- 121 • the Transparency Regulation, for the electricity sector<sup>1</sup>;
- 122 • the Gas Regulation, for the gas sector<sup>2</sup>;
- 123 • the REMIT Regulation and the REMIT implementing act, for both the electricity and the gas  
124 sectors<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Namely Commission Regulation (EU) No 543/2013 of 14 June 2013 on submission and publication of data in electricity markets and amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 714/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council (the "Transparency Regulation"). The [manual of procedures](#) developed by ENTSO-E under this Regulation prescribes the use of EIC codes to report information under the Transparency Regulation (notably EIC codes type X, Y, W, V and T).

<sup>2</sup> Namely, Regulation (EC) No 715/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on conditions for access to the natural gas transmission networks and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1775/2005 (the "Gas Regulation"), as modified by Commission Decision of 24 August 2012. The Automatic Download User Manual developed by ENTSOG pursuant to the Gas Regulation equally prescribes the use of EIC codes to report information under the Gas Regulation (notably EIC codes types X, Y and Z).

<sup>3</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1227/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of October 2011 on wholesale energy market integrity and transparency (the "REMIT" Regulation) and the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1348/2014 of 17 December 2014 on data reporting implementing Article 8(2) and Article 8(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1227/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council on wholesale energy market integrity and transparency (the "REMIT implementing act") render EIC codes mandatory. EIC codes have to be submitted to report information pursuant to Article 8(2) of the REMIT Regulation (Article 5 and the Annex of the REMIT implementing act):

– EIC codes identifying the delivery point or zone/areas for contracts related to the supply of electricity and gas (Annex of the REMIT implementing act, Table 1, row 48 and Table 2, row 41);

125 These obligations follow from the legislative and regulatory acts in force at the date of release of  
126 the version 5.0 of the EIC reference manual and are without prejudice to any legislative and/or  
127 regulatory acts that may be amended or adopted thereafter. ENTSO-E reserves the right to amend  
128 this section of the reference manual in case legislative and regulatory changes are relevant and  
129 applicable to EIC codes.

## 130 2 Definitions

131 For the purpose of this reference manual, the following definitions apply:

132 **Local EIC code** means an EIC code allocated for activities limited to an area of operation and is  
133 not used in another country.

134 **International EIC code** means an EIC code allocated for activities on one or several geographical  
135 area(s) which may cross borders with another country and/or for any other activities outside the  
136 limits of this area as subject to publication or reporting requirements pursuant to EU legislation.  
137 The international EIC code shall be registered in the CIO registry.

138 **Party** means a physical or legal entity active on the electricity and/or gas markets, which can be,  
139 without being exhaustive, a trader, a producer, a consumer or a group of consumers, a system  
140 operator, etc., and which can be or is allocated under this reference manual an EIC code type X.

141 **EIC Participant** means a physical or legal entity which is allocated one or several EIC code(s) by  
142 an authorised LIO. The quality of “EIC Participant” applies as soon as an entity applies to be  
143 allocated an EIC code.

144 All the terms that are used in this EIC reference manual can be found in the [ENTSO-E Metadata](#)  
145 [Repository](#).

- 
- *EIC codes type X (identifying the sender of the document, the bidding party, the rights holder, the transferee party and the market participant for whom a bid is submitted) and EIC codes type Y (identifying the “in” and “out” area, both for primary allocation and secondary rights) for contracts related to the transportation of electricity (Annex of the REMIT implementing act, Table 3, rows 4, 16, 19, 20, 33 – 36, and 54) ;*
  - *EIC code type Z (identifying the network point) for contracts related to gas (Annex of the REMIT implementing act, Table 4, row 22).*

*In addition, ENTSO-E and ENTSO-G have to report the data under Article 8(5) of the REMIT Regulation through their transparency platforms (Articles 8 and 9 of the REMIT implementing act). As EIC codes are to be used to report information on the transparency platforms, EIC codes are equally to be used to report information under Article 8(5) of the REMIT Regulation and Articles 8 and 9 of the REMIT implementing act.*

*Finally, EIC codes are listed as an option amongst other codes (e.g. Legal Entity Identifier (LEI), Bank Identifier Code (BIC), etc.) to identify information under Article 8(2) of the REMIT Regulation (Article 5 and the Annex of the REMIT implementing act).*

## 146 **3 Governance**

147 The administrative organization for EIC management is composed of a four level structure:

- 148 • Level 1: EIC Participant

149 The EIC Participant submits a request for an EIC code for an identifying party or for an object.  
150 The role of the EIC Participant consists in providing the LIO with the information necessary for  
151 the EIC code creation and all necessary updates.

- 152 • Level 2: Local Issuing Office (LIO)

153 Each country, which directly or indirectly is a part of the European energy network, can have one  
154 or more LIO for issuing EIC codes. In addition, an energy association, (such as ENTSO-E, EFET,  
155 BDEW, DVGW, etc.) can also become a LIO. The LIO shall manage the EIC codes it allocates  
156 and maintains a local registry.

- 157 • Level 3: Central Issuing Office (CIO)

158 The CIO is currently under the direct responsibility of ENTSO-E. It ensures the management of  
159 the central registry and the acceptance of LIOs.

- 160 • Level 4: ENTSO-E

161 ENTSO-E defines after consulting the LIOs the governance of the EIC scheme and maintains the  
162 EIC Reference manual.

### 163 **3.1 EIC Participant**

#### 164 **3.1.1 Obligations/Responsibility**

165 An EIC Participant is responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the information it submits  
166 when applying for an EIC code. Once an EIC code is issued, the EIC Participant shall be  
167 responsible for the information provided in the EIC code and shall inform the LIO that issued the  
168 EIC Code of any changes in the EIC information.

169 By applying for and being allocated an EIC code, an EIC Participant accepts:

- 170 • explicitly this reference manual and to comply with its provisions;
- 171 • that this reference manual is governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with Belgian  
172 law for relations with the CIO or national law of the LIO in the case of relations with the LIO;
- 173 • that any disputes or disagreements arising from or in connection with this reference manual  
174 shall be settled amicably. For the disputes which cannot be settled amicably within a  
175 reasonable period of time, the competent courts under the applicable law shall have exclusive  
176 jurisdiction to settle any disputes arising out or in connection with this reference manual.

177 When an EIC Participant is in material breach of this reference manual, the LIO and/or the CIO  
178 shall have the right to:

- 179 • send a written notice to the EIC Participant requesting it to remedy its breach within 30  
180 calendar days;
- 181 • suspend the allocated EIC code in the absence of remedy within the timing set in the written  
182 notice;
- 183 • revoke the allocated EIC code in the absence of remedy within 30 calendar days following the  
184 suspension of the authorisation.

185 A revoked EIC code shall be reinstated as soon as the EIC Participant demonstrates to the LIO  
186 and/or the CIO it has remedied the breach in question.

187 A CIO or LIO may suspend or revoke an EIC code upon a reasoned request of a public competent  
188 authority claiming a breach of the applicable law. In no event shall the CIO or LIO be responsible  
189 for such suspension or revocation.

190 After receiving a new EIC code or an amended one, the EIC Participant shall verify the accuracy  
191 of its EIC code content with the data it submitted when applying for the EIC code and/or if relevant  
192 when requesting a change to its EIC code information. The EIC Participant shall also verify the  
193 accurate publication of its EIC code on the CIO or LIO registries. The EIC Participant shall notify  
194 in the shortest timing following the publication of the EIC code any possible errors it identifies to  
195 the concerned LIO. In the absence of notification of an error within 10 business days after the  
196 publication of the EIC code, the EIC code is understood as valid and cannot engage the  
197 responsibility of the LIO or CIO.

198 The person applying for an EIC code on behalf on a Party which wishes to become an EIC  
199 Participant shall submit to the LIO a declaration attesting it acts on behalf of the EIC Participant.

200 An EIC Participant, when requesting a change to the information content of an EIC code, shall  
201 submit to the LIO a declaration attesting it was issued the EIC code in question and that the  
202 person signing the declaration acts on behalf of this EIC Participant.

203 As described in 3.5.1, EIC participants agree to be bound by any future amendments of this  
204 reference manual, by continuing using the EUC code they were allocated.”

### 205 **3.1.2 Process of “creating” or “updating” an EIC code**

206 An EIC Participant may request an EIC code from a LIO. It is also possible to request that the  
207 information associated with the EIC code be modified or that an EIC code be deactivated. If the  
208 request is not acceptable for any reason (EIC code already exists, incorrect display name, etc.)  
209 the EIC Participant is informed by the LIO and may, if necessary, make a new request.

210 If an EIC participant withdraws from operating on the energy market then this information shall  
211 be provided to the LIO to enable the deactivation of the EIC code.

212 The EIC Participant shall provide to the LIO an e-mail address (preferably generic) to enable EIC  
213 code information queries from the LIO and/or the CIO to be handled.

214

215 A LIO shall only issue an EIC code type X for Party not registered (e.g. VAT number) or other  
216 codes for objects not located in the country where the LIO operates if:

- 217 • the concerned EIC Participant demonstrates there is no LIO in the country where the Party is  
218 registered / the object is located or;
- 219 • the LIO(s) in the country where the Party is registered / the object is located do not issue EIC  
220 codes for the sector (electricity or gas) and type the EIC Participant applies for.

221

## 222 **3.2 Local Issuing Office**

### 223 **3.2.1 Obligations/Responsibility**

224 A LIO explicitly accepts:

- 225 • this reference manual and to comply with its provisions;
- 226 • that this reference manual is governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, Belgian  
227 law for relations with the CIO or national law of the LIO in the case of relations with EIC  
228 Participants;



229 • that any disputes or disagreements arising from or in connection with this reference manual  
230 shall be settled amicably. For the disputes which cannot be settled amicably within a  
231 reasonable period of time, the competent courts under the applicable law shall have exclusive  
232 jurisdiction to settle any disputes arising out or in connection with this reference manual.

233 A LIO is responsible for the allocation and maintenance of the EIC codes it issues and a LIO shall  
234 publish at least the list of all the active EIC codes that it has issued in its local registry with at  
235 least the information proposed in the EIC implementation guide

236 A LIO shall correct errors identified by the EIC Participant in existing EIC codes that the LIO has  
237 issued.

238 The LIO is not responsible for the accuracy, completeness and validity of the information that is  
239 provided by an EIC Participant.

240 The LIO is not responsible for loss, damage, costs and expenses which may incur as a direct  
241 consequence of acts or omissions from an EIC Participant, the CIO or any third party. The LIO is  
242 responsible only for the EIC codes it allocates.

243 The LIO shall perform its obligations without prejudice to the application of national legislation  
244 relating to the protection of personal data or to the protection of commercially sensitive  
245 information. In this respect, the LIO shall not be held liable for any failure to perform its  
246 obligations, when such failure is due to the necessary compliance of the LIO with such legislation.

247 A LIO shall provide at least the following minimum services:

248 • to provide a local registry on a web-page accessible by third parties. The LIO publishes the  
249 energy sector (gas or electricity or both) and the EIC code types that it covers;

250 • to publish the list of all EIC codes allocated by the LIO in a processable form according to the  
251 EIC implementation guide that can be downloaded by third party;

252 • to ensure that an EIC code or a display name has not already been allocated for the requesting  
253 party either locally or in the central registry. If an EIC code has already been allocated in the  
254 central registry to identify the entity or object, the LIO shall inform the EIC Participant applying  
255 for an EIC code;

256 • to provide a party with all the details relevant to the EIC codes they are responsible for and to  
257 notify EIC Participants of their obligation to keep the content of the EIC codes current.

258 When a LIO is in material breach of this reference manual, the CIO shall have the right to take  
259 actions according to section 3.3.2.

260 LIOs will issue, maintain and publish the needed EIC codes free of charge for EIC Participants,  
261 unless the competent national regulatory authority agrees that the LIO asks a fee to EIC  
262 Participant in its area of operation. Any LIO asking a fee shall publish on its website the applicable  
263 fee and inform the other LIOs.

264 The LIO shall treat as confidential any data qualified as confidential it receives from an EIC  
265 Participant, another LIO or the CIO. The LIO shall use utmost care and discretion not to disclose,  
266 publish or disseminate the confidential data. This obligation is without prejudice to the  
267 communication of data to the CIO and other LIOs in accordance with this reference manual and,  
268 if necessary or requested, to competent authorities. The LIO shall inform EIC Participants of this  
269 possible communication. The LIO shall process and publish the data it receives in line with the  
270 national law on protection of personal data.

### 271 **3.2.2 Process to become a LIO**

272 An applicant shall be authorised by the CIO in order to become a LIO. It shall fill in the application  
273 form available on the EIC website and submit it to the CIO.

274 The application form shall be signed by an authorised representative of the submitting  
275 organisation and shall contain at least:

- 276 • Name and address of the legal entity submitting the request;
- 277 • Documentation of the motivations for the creation of the LIO;
- 278 • The area of operation;
- 279 • The sector it will cover (gas, electricity). If it does not cover both sectors then it should indicate  
280 which LIO covers the absent sector, if such information is available.
- 281 • The EIC code types (see section 4.2) it will allocate. If it does not allocate all EIC code types  
282 then it should indicate thorough justification and indicate which LIO(s) allocates the missing  
283 code types for its area of operation.

284 In case where the requirements of the reference manual are met, the CIO shall assign to the  
285 applicant a unique 2-character code that identifies it as a LIO. In case of non-compliance, the CIO  
286 shall inform the applicant of the motivations for the rejection.

287 The ENTSO-E Secretary General or the designated responsible person on the Secretary  
288 General's behalf will supply the successful LIO by post, email or fax with a certificate  
289 acknowledging the LIO status.

290 The CIO shall publish the new LIO information in the EIC website.

### 291 **3.2.3 Process to issue an EIC code**

292 On reception of a request for the creation of an EIC code, the LIO will initially validate the  
293 credentials of the requesting EIC Participant.

294 It shall ensure that the allocated EIC codes are stable over time.

295 Regarding requests referring to a party, a LIO can always request:

- 296 • an excerpt of the national trading register (e.g. a VAT number) and/or;
- 297 • the ACER identification code if one exists;
- 298 • the description of the EIC code shall be provided in a description attribute (free text) and also  
299 using the list of functions published in the EIC web site;
- 300 • the company name shall correspond to its registered name;
- 301 • any other information deemed necessary by the LIO.

302 A LIO shall only issue an EIC code or update information of an EIC code that begins with its LIO  
303 identification number.

304 The EIC Participant shall be informed of any problems identified. In a second phase the LIO shall  
305 verify in the local and central registry to ensure that an EIC code has not been already allocated  
306 to this entity or object. If an EIC code already exists for this entity or object, there are two  
307 possibilities:

- 308 • An EIC code exists in the local registry; the EIC Participant could be making a request for the  
309 EIC code to become an international EIC code. If this is the case then the process continues.  
310 However, if this is not the case then the EIC Participant is informed of the existing EIC code;
- 311 • An EIC code exists in the central registry in which case the EIC Participant is informed of the  
312 EIC code's existence that identifies already the entity or object.

313 Display names in the central registry are required to be unique by EIC type. This uniqueness  
314 check by EIC type also applies to locally assigned EIC codes. In order to ensure that a locally  
315 assigned EIC code has a display name that is unique it is recommended that it begins with the  
316 two character international country code of the country in question, or the LIO number, in case

317 there are more than one LIO in the same country. For example a local EIC code assigned in  
318 Switzerland shall have display name such as “CH-NAME”. A conflict may occur in the case of  
319 several LIOs in the same country in which case the display name shall use the LIO number  
320 instead.

321  
322

323 A LIO shall only issue an EIC code type X for Party not registered (e.g. VAT number) or other  
324 codes for objects not located in the country where the LIO operates if:

- 325 • the concerned EIC Participant demonstrates there is no LIO in the country where the Party is  
326 registered / the object is located or;
- 327 • the LIO(s) in the country where the Party is registered / the object is located do not issue EIC  
328 codes for the sector (electricity or gas) and type the EIC Participant applies for.

#### 329 **3.2.4 Process to communicate to the CIO registry**

330 LIOs may assign local EIC codes. In this case the EIC code assigned shall not be submitted to  
331 the CIO. An EIC code that has been created for use on the local market may at some later date  
332 be upgraded for use on the international market. The LIO has, in such a case, to transmit the EIC  
333 code information to the CIO.

334 The LIO shall ensure that a locally assigned EIC code respects all the rules laid down in this  
335 document and in particular it shall ensure that the display name per each type of EIC code and  
336 whatever its status (active/inactive) that is assigned is unique within the central registry.

337 A LIO shall provide at least the following minimum services:

- 338 • to transmit to the CIO all international EIC codes.
- 339 • to send to the CIO any updated information that is in the central registry.
- 340 • to manage the EIC codes under its responsibility by:
  - 341 a) enabling inquiries about an EIC code;
  - 342 b) suspending when necessary an EIC code;
  - 343 c) modifying when necessary information related to an EIC code.

344 When there are several LIOs for a same geographical area, the LIOs shall cooperate with each  
345 other to ensure that no different EIC codes are allocated to a same legal entity.

346 When a locally assigned EIC code becomes an international EIC code, the LIO shall ensure that  
347 the display name is still unique within the central registry for the category of the EIC code in  
348 question. If not it shall make any required changes that are necessary.

349 For the creation of an international EIC code, the LIO shall supply the central registry with all  
350 allocated international EIC codes and the standard information. Each LIO shall send all  
351 internationally assigned EIC codes to the CIO containing the related information and their  
352 allocated EIC codes. This information shall be sent to the CIO by the LIO using either the standard  
353 XML electronic document which will be validated through the appropriate XML schema. More  
354 information on the XML structure of the EIC scheme and the EIC attributes can be found in the  
355 EIC implementation guide document, which is available in the EIC website ([www.eiccodes.eu](http://www.eiccodes.eu)).

#### 356 **3.2.5 Process to publish its EIC codes**

357 Each LIO shall have a web-page where all EIC codes they allocate shall be published. The detail  
358 provided in the publication shall respect the national laws on protection of personal data.

### 359 **3.2.6 Process to deactivate or reactivate an EIC code**

360 Deactivation/reactivation of a local EIC code is carried out by the LIO who is responsible for it.

361 Before an international EIC code may be deactivated, a LIO shall send a deactivation request to  
362 the CIO. The EIC code in question shall be kept active for a period of two months prior to its  
363 deactivation. If during that time a request is made for it not to be deactivated the EIC code shall  
364 remain active. The requesting LIO shall be informed of its removal. If, after the two month period  
365 no requests have been received the EIC code will be deactivated by the CIO.

366 The reactivation of an already deactivated EIC code is possible in the case where an EIC code  
367 identifying an object has been deactivated and a request is made to reactivate it for use to identify  
368 the same object.

369 A LIO may reactivate a deactivated EIC code after it has ensured that it is identifying the same  
370 object. For an international EIC code, the request for reactivation is sent to the CIO who shall  
371 reactivate the EIC code immediately.

### 372 **3.2.7 Process to update the additional attributes of an EIC code**

373 A LIO is allowed to update the attributes of an existing EIC code following an update request by  
374 the owner of the EIC code. All attributes can undergo change, except for the case of the VAT  
375 number for Parties. In the latter case, an update is allowed only if the update does not affect the  
376 essence of the company. To this end, the following changes to the VAT number can be considered  
377 as non-essential:

- 378 • the restructuring of a legal entity, leading to the transfer of the EIC codes to another legal  
379 entity succeeding to its activities for the EIC codes (such as for instance the merger of several  
380 entities or the split of one entity into several entities);
- 381 • the modification of the VAT number in a country following the accession to the European Union  
382 (see e.g. the case of Croatia);
- 383 • the modification of the form of the legal entity.

384 The LIO can request all necessary documentation that demonstrates that the change of VAT does  
385 not change the essence of the company. Regarding the update of other EIC attributes, the LIO  
386 shall simply verify that the display name remains unique in each EIC code type.

## 387 **3.3 Central Issuing Office**

### 388 **3.3.1 Obligations/Responsibility**

389 The CIO is responsible for the collection, integration and publication of all the international EIC  
390 codes received from the LIOs.

391 The CIO shall not be liable for indirect or consequential damages arising under or in connection  
392 of this reference manual.

393 The CIO is not responsible for the accuracy, completeness and validity of the information that is  
394 provided by a LIO. The CIO is not responsible for loss, damage, costs and expenses which may  
395 incur as a direct consequence of acts or omissions from an EIC Participant, a LIO or a third party.  
396 The CIO is responsible only for the management of the EIC codes published on its central registry.  
397 It is not responsible for EIC codes published only on local registries or allocated by an entity it  
398 did not recognise as LIO or by an entity whose authorisation to act as LIO was suspended or  
399 revoked.

400 The CIO shall treat as confidential any data qualified as confidential it receives from an EIC  
401 Participant or a LIO. The CIO shall use utmost care and discretion not to disclose, publish or  
402 disseminate the confidential data. This obligation is without prejudice to the consolidation by the  
403 CIO of all the data received from the LIOs and the regular communication of this consolidated  
404 data to all LIOs as well as to the communication of data if necessary to competent authorities.

405 The CIO shall process and publish the data it receives from the LIO in line with the national law  
406 on protection of personal data.

### 407 **3.3.2 Acceptance/Revoke of a LIO**

408 When a LIO is in material breach of this reference manual, the CIO shall have the right to:

- 409 • send a written notice to the LIO requesting it to remedy its breach within 45 calendar days;
- 410 • suspend the authorisation to act as a LIO in the absence of remedy within the timing set in  
411 the written notice;
- 412 • revoke the authorisation to act as a LIO in the absence of remedy within 45 calendar days  
413 following the suspension of the authorisation.

414 A revoked LIO shall be reauthorised as a LIO once it demonstrates to the CIO that it remedied  
415 the breach it was notified.

416 EIC codes allocated by a suspended and/or revoked LIO remain valid until the reauthorisation of  
417 the concerned LIO. While the LIO is suspended and/or revoked, the CIO shall find a solution for  
418 the management of the active EIC codes.

### 419 **3.3.3 Process to update CIO registry**

420 The CIO shall perform the following validation checks:

- 421 • The EIC code is unique within the central registry;
- 422 • The display name is unique per EIC code type within the central registry;
- 423 • The EIC code and display name respect the naming rules and only use the permitted  
424 characters;
- 425 • The contents of the function attributes shall exist in the permitted function list;
- 426 • If two different EIC Participants have the same VAT number and this is permitted by the local  
427 tax regulations, one of the two EIC codes should be designated as EIC Parent, otherwise one  
428 of the two EIC codes will not be accepted.
- 429 • A request to deactivate an EIC Participant code which is EIC parent or EIC responsible shall  
430 not be permitted unless all EIC children or responsible for EIC codes are already updated;
- 431 • The last request date shall be modified with each addition, modification deactivation or  
432 reactivation of an EIC code;
- 433 • The EIC code with an erroneous EIC attribute shall not be published, until the LIO provides a  
434 compliant EIC attribute;
- 435 • All mandatory attributes shall be present.

### 436 **3.3.4 Verification and integration of an international EIC code**

437 On reception of an LIO request submission, the CIO verifies that all the required information is  
438 present and that the controls defined in section 3.3.3 are respected. When the controls are not  
439 respected, the request is rejected and the LIO is informed of the rejection.

440 This requires immediate action by the LIO. Once the verifications successfully carried out the  
441 central registry is updated accordingly. The CIO also ensures that the last requested date is  
442 superior to the requested date in the central registry. If not the date is changed to the current date  
443 and the LIO is informed of the change.

### 444 **3.3.5 Process to publish EIC codes**

445 The CIO shall publish on its central registry the list of authorised, suspended and/or revoked LIOs.

446 The CIO shall add to its registry the valid EIC codes as received from the LIOs and publish in a  
447 processable form downloadable by third party the related attributes, taking into consideration the  
448 most restrictive national legislation on protection of personal data.

449 The CIO shall publish the list of EIC codes it receives from the LIOs in a processable form  
450 according to the EIC implementation guide downloadable by third party.

### 451 **3.3.6 Organisation of regular meetings**

452 The CIO shall ensure a proper coordination of LIOs through regular CIO/LIOs meetings.

## 453 **3.4 Common provisions for CIO, LIO and EIC Participants**

454 An actor (being LIO, CIO or EIC Participant) shall indemnify any other actor only against damage,  
455 costs and expenses which it may incur as a direct consequence of a breach of this reference  
456 manual resulting from a gross negligence and/or wilful misconduct. The actor's liability shall be  
457 limited to a maximum amount of 1.000 EUR per damaging event and shall not be liable for indirect  
458 or consequential damages arising under or in connection of this reference manual.

## 459 **3.5 ENTSO-E**

### 460 **3.5.1 Obligations/ Responsibility**

461 Any coding scheme needs a body to maintain it and to ensure that it satisfies market requirements.

462 ENTSO-E shall manage the maintenance of the EIC scheme. The LIOs or the CIO may provide a  
463 maintenance request for a change to or evolution of the EIC scheme. Any proposed changes to  
464 this reference manual shall have the consensus of all participating LIOs and the CIO.

465 Should this reference manual be amended, the amended reference manual will be published on  
466 the EIC website ([www.eiccodes.eu](http://www.eiccodes.eu)). The CIO and LIO will inform on their respective website of  
467 the publication of the amended reference manual on the EIC website. By continuing using the EIC  
468 codes they were allocated, EIC Participants agree to be bound by the reference manual as  
469 amended.

## 470 **4 EIC codes: requirements and types**

### 471 **4.1 General requirements**

472 A successful identification scheme requires that the allocated codes are stable over time.

473 Only EIC codes issued by LIOs that respect the rules of this reference manual are valid EIC  
474 codes.

475 Only one EIC code shall be allocated per entity or object<sup>4</sup>.

476 EIC codes shall identify abstract or physical objects by what they are used for and not by their  
477 physical characteristics. For instance, a replacement of a transformer does not require a change  
478 of the EIC code that is used to identify it.

479 The EIC code is to be used as a complete string without trying to extract information from its  
480 structure.

481 Only a restricted list of functions can be assigned to a given EIC code, based on its code type.  
482 This list of functions is maintained by the ENTSO-E WG EDI and can be found in the EIC website.

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<sup>4</sup> In case they were issued before the version 5.0 of the EIC reference manual and are referred to in the local market rules and national laws, more than one EIC code of type X per party shall remain valid until phased out.

483 **4.2 EIC code types**

- 484 • EIC object type X (Party)

485 The EIC code of type X is used to identify a Party<sup>5</sup>.

486 The allocation of an EIC code does not permit a Party to participate in any energy market. The  
487 Party has necessarily to be registered in accordance with local market rules of the area where  
488 the Party wants to operate.

- 489 • EIC object type Y (Area)

490 The EIC code of type Y is used to identify a domain which can be considered as a delimited area  
491 that is uniquely identified for a specific purpose and where energy consumption, production or  
492 trade may be determined. It can be a geographical or market area, such as control areas, balance  
493 groups, bidding zones, balancing areas, etc.

494 Only system operators, grid operators (distribution operators), market operators, imbalance  
495 settlement responsible parties, balance responsible parties, and regulators are allowed to request  
496 new EIC area identification codes.

- 497 • EIC object type Z (Measurement point)

498 The EIC code of type Z is used to identify a physical or logical point that is used to identify an  
499 object where the measurement of energy is measured or calculated.

- 500 • EIC object type W (Resource object)

501 The EIC code of type W is used to identify objects to be used for production, consumption or  
502 storage of energy. Examples are: generation unit, production unit, LNG terminals, gas storages  
503 etc. Excluded are the passive elements in the grid, e.g. lines or transformers.

- 504 • EIC object type T (Tie-line)

505 The EIC code of type T is used to identify connecting objects such as interconnection lines, lines,  
506 busbar-couples, transformers, etc.

- 507 • EIC object type V (Location)

508 The EIC code of type V is used to identify a physical or logical place where a Party or an IT system  
509 of a Party is or could be located (endpoints, nodes etc.). A location has necessarily an EIC  
510 responsible party associated with it.

- 511 • EIC object Type A (Substations)

512 The EIC code of type A is used to identify substations.

513 **4.3 EIC attributes**

514 The information of an EIC code which are stored in the central or local registry are described in  
515 the ENTSO-E EIC implementation guide.

516 **5 Structure of the EIC code**

517 **5.1 General**

518 The Energy Identification Coding scheme (EIC) is based on fixed length alphanumeric codes. The  
519 EIC codes will contain information about the LIO in addition to information on the object identified.

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<sup>5</sup> With the introduction of the EIC coding system, balance groups in the electricity market were assigned EIC code type X in some European countries. In Germany, this usage of local EIC codes remains valid due to local market rules and national laws.

520 It is strongly recommended that EIC codes should be non-significant alphanumeric codes. This  
 521 maintains the uniqueness of the code and stability of the coding system. Examples:

- 522 • of a random non-significant code: 10X1680A248;
- 523 • of a non-random significant code: 10X---ENTSOE--3.

524 **5.2 Permitted characters**

525 Permitted characters are numbers (0 to 9), capital letters (A to Z, English alphabet) and the sign  
 526 minus (-). To avoid confusion, the check character shall use numbers (0 to 9) or the capital letters  
 527 (A to Z).

528 **5.3 Overall structure**

529 The structure of the EIC may be broken down as follows (see Figure 1):

- 530 • The 2-characters identifying the LIO, as assigned by the CIO.
- 531 • One character identifying the object type that the EIC code represents.
- 532 • 12 digits, uppercase characters or minus signs allocated by the LIO in compliance with general  
 533 and local rules to identify the object in question (party, measurement point, area, etc.). This  
 534 implies that the significance of these 12 characters shall always remain constant.
- 535 • 1 check character based on the 15 previous characters used to ensure the validity of the EIC  
 536 code. The check digit algorithm is described in the EIC implementation guide document, which  
 537 is available in the [EIC website](#).



538 **Figure 1 –Structure of an EIC code**

539 **5.4 Structure of other attributes**

540 The display name should have a maximum length of 16 character. The permitted letters are the  
 541 uppercase characters “A” to “Z”, the minus sign “-”, the plus sign “+”, the underscore sign “\_”, or  
 542 the numeric values “0” to “9”. Each Display name assigned by a LIO must be unique within the  
 543 LIO’s registry and the central (CIO) registry. This uniqueness should be guaranteed only within  
 544 codes of the same EIC type<sup>6</sup>.  
 545

<sup>6</sup> See section 4.2 for EIC code types.