

CLAIMS

1. A method for clearing customs when goods are imported or exported, the method comprising:

receiving a declaration from a source, said declaration comprising at least one field;

processing and storing the input declaration in a pre-processing table in a database ~~in the form of a table~~;

processing the pre-processing table using a configuration engine₁, wherein the processing comprises,

assessing the data in the pre-processing table to determine incomplete fields;

retrieving a lookup value or a default value and filling each of the incomplete fields with the lookup value or default value and/or applying a formula to each of the incomplete fields to complete the incomplete fields in the pre-processing table, resulting in a pro-processing table;

validating the pro-processing table using a validation rule;

transforming the post-processing table, wherein the post-processing table is transformed based on a requirement of a destination country;

and

producing an output from the post-processing table and sending the output to a target₂;

~~wherein the table is transformed based on a requirement of a destination country.~~

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving a first declaration and a second declaration, wherein the first declaration is in a first file format and the second declaration is in a second file format, and the first file format and the second file format are different.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving a first declaration from a first source and a second declaration from a second source, wherein the first source uses a first communication channel and the second source uses a second communication channel.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of producing an output from the table further comprises sending the output to a plurality of destination addresses.

5. The method of any one of claims 1-4 further comprising obtaining an approval from the destination country.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising sending a notification of the approval to the source.

~~7. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of processing the table comprises filling the field with a default value.~~

~~8. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of processing the table comprises replacing the first field with a lookup value based on a lookup table.~~

97. The method of claim ~~8~~1, wherein the lookup value is based on a lookup table, wherein the lookup table is accessed and stored by the configuration engine.

~~108.~~ The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of processing the table comprises applying a the formula to a first each of the incomplete fields and comprises~~ obtaining an outcome based on the formula and replacing the ~~first incomplete~~ field with the outcome.

~~119.~~ The method of claim ~~108~~, wherein applying the formula to the ~~first incomplete~~ field is based on a ~~second another~~ field.

~~1210.~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the step of validating the table comprises accessing a validation rule and applying the validation rule to the table.

~~1311.~~ The method of claim ~~1210~~, wherein the validation rule is stored in a database and accessed by the configuration engine.

~~1412.~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the step of transforming the table includes a second declaration for a second destination country.

13. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining common incomplete fields and frequently mapped values, determining a most frequent incomplete field against its frequently mapped to value to as a percentage, wherein the mapped to value is suggested as the best default value to be mapped to when the percentage reaches a predefined percentage.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the best default value is updated in a lookup table, wherein the lookup table comprises lookup values for filling incomplete fields in the pre-processing table.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of sending the output to the target is done via one of email, secure file transfer protocol, or xml page.

16. A system for clearing customs when goods are imported or exported, the system comprising:

a database;

a server with a communication channel capable of receiving a declaration from a source, said declaration comprising at least one field, processing and storing the declaration in a pre-processing table in the database; and

a configuration engine capable of ~~accessing~~ processing the pre-processing table in the database, wherein the configuration engine is configured to assess the data in the pre-processing table to determine incomplete fields, retrieve a lookup value or a default value and filling each of the incomplete fields with the lookup value or default value and/or applying a formula to each of the incomplete fields to complete the incomplete fields in the pre-processing table, resulting in a pro-processing table, validate the pro-processing table using a validation rule, and transforming the post-processing table based on a requirement of a destination country, and produce an output from the post-processing table and send the output to a target,

~~wherein the server is instructed to send the declaration to a destination for approval.~~

~~17. The system of claim 16 wherein the configuration engine is capable of processing the table.~~

~~18. The system of claim 16 wherein the configuration engine is capable of validating the table.~~

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the server is further configured to determine common incomplete fields and frequently mapped to values, determine a most frequent incomplete field against its frequently mapped to value as a percentage, wherein the mapped to value is suggested as the best default value to be mapped to when the percentage reaches a predefined percentage.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the best default value is updated in a lookup table, wherein the lookup table comprises lookup values for filling incomplete fields in the pre-processing table.

19. The system of claim 16, wherein the server receives a plurality of declarations via a plurality of sources.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein the plurality of declarations include at least two different file formats.

21. The system of claim 19, wherein the plurality of declarations are done via at least two different communication channels.

22. The system of claim 16, wherein the server is instructed to send the declaration to a plurality of destinations.