

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

Cahit SOYSAL
csoysal@uysen.com

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

- Turkey is among the first Signatories to 1975 TIR Convention.
- In order to duly fulfill requirements stipulated by the TIR Convention, the Turkish Customs Administration established a separate directorate general connected to the central organisation in 1975 : Directorate General of Customs Control.
- In 1976 the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (UCCET) was authorized by the Turkish Customs Administration as the national guaranteeing association.

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

- The first TIR certification was conducted by the Turkish Customs Administration in 1977.
- As of today, the number of companies certified by the Directorate General of Customs Control is 1297.

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

- In 1977, a commission was established at each Customs Directorate and these commissions have been controlling the manufacturing style of lorries and semi-trailers and the technical performance of equipment according to Annex 2 of the TIR Convention and these vehicles have been obtaining “Approval Certificates”.

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

- In the initial years of implementation, the process of matching Volet 1- Volet 2 of the TIR Carnet was conducted at the customs office of departure.
- Due to the failure of customs offices of destination to send Volet – 2 copies to customs offices of departure on time, the process of matching Volets has been conducted by the Directorate General of Customs Control since 1979.

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

- In order to avoid abuses, samples (photos) of customs seals and sealing tools used in Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention have been distributed to the regional organisation of the Turkish Customs Administration since 1980.

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

- The number of TIR Carnets used by TIR trucks registered in Turkey has reached up to half million and due to the inability to gain access by road as a result of the civil war in Yugoslavia, these trucks have been accessing Western European countries through RO-RO lines established under the leadership of UND in 1993.
- Subsequently, the Turkish Customs Administration adjusted its administrative structure to RO-RO transport.

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

- The Customs Law Nr. 4458 which entered into force in 2000, stipulates penalties proportional to breaches detected in transport operations under TIR Carnet in order to minimise breaches committed during transport operations carried out under TIR Convention.

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

- Since 1998, the Turkish Customs Administration has been monitoring the TIR traffic through a computer system called TIR-MONITORING SYSTEM and has been releasing TIR Carnets used for domestic transit electronically.
- Through a system called GUMSIS, the Turkish Customs Administration can monitor TIR trucks along their routes and can avoid breach attempts immediately.

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

- Since the beginning of 2005, the Turkish Customs Administration has given up the practice of “lead seal” which has been used for many years and has caused complaints from other signatory countries to the TIR Convention and replaced it with the practice of “plastic seal”.

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

- As of today, Turkey, being one of the countries where the least breaches have been attributable compared to the number of TIR Carnets used , is determined to further support the international transport operations as one of the most loyal members of the TIR System.

TIR CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

Thank you for your attention.

csoysal@uysen.com