

SUCCESS STORY



Sopra Steria supports the European Commission Taxation and Customs Union in their effort to modernize their service platforms.

The European Commission, DG Taxation and Customs Union manages the customs union of protecting the external borders of the EU, tackle the tax obstacles and engages with stakeholders and interested parties in order to ensure that rules and proposals keep pace with the reality of rapid change

Background

Customs and tax administrations face major challenges that will require continued and improved support of IT. In order to respond to these challenges it is considered necessary to renovate CCN so as to modernize the existing facilities and create the new facilities necessary for the support of the existing political and operational objectives.

Challenge

Sopra Steria's challenge was to replace DG TAXUD's existing legacy communications infrastructure with a cost-effective, flexible platform based on industry standards and a services oriented architecture. The new network, to be called Common Communication Network 2 (CCN2), will provide mission-critical interoperability and communications links between the 28 EU Member States' customs and tax operations and the multiple systems in operation across the region.

DG TAXUD'S Common Communication Network (CCN) is the gateway for all tax and customs applications in the EU, supporting areas of taxation between member states, including VAT, excise duties, transit and import.

The consortium also ensures the maintenance of SPEED2, the Single Portal for Entry or Exit of Data used to interconnect the IT systems of the Member States with third countries (e.g. Russia, China, USA).

What we did

The project covered the procurement of IT services and deliverables to:

1. The setup of the CCN2 Platform;
2. The take over and maintenance of the legacy CCN/CSI related tools and applications;
3. The take over and maintenance of the SPEED2 platform and the related business flows;
4. The migration of legacy CCN/CSI to the CCN2 Platform and associated tools and applications;
5. The development and maintenance of new CCN2 Platform related tools, applications and services;
6. Provision of hardware and software linked to CCN2 Platform;
7. The handover of all deliverables and services to DG TAXUD or to any specified third parties on its behalf.

Benefits

Thanks to this project, the European Commission will make a provision of services to cover the specification, development, maintenance and third level support of CCN/CSI and design of CCN2.