

Energy Identification Coding (EIC)

Short Guide & FAQ

Definition

The Energy Identification Coding scheme (EIC), standardized and maintained by ENTSO-E, provides a unique identification of the market participants and other entities active within the Energy Internal European Market (IEM). It is widely used in the Electronic Document Interchange.

The EIC is **only** a coding scheme and **it is not a right or authorization to trade energy**.

Over and above Market Participants (Parties - object type "X"), the EIC also covers other entities by allocating a unique code to the following object types:

- Areas – object type “Y”, Areas for inter System Operator data interchange
- Measuring Points – object type “Z”, Energy Metering points
- Resource objects – object type “W”, such as Production plants, consumption units, etc.
- Tie-lines – object type “T”, International tie lines between areas
- Location – object type “V”, Physical or logical place where a market participant or IT system is located

The EIC is based on fixed length alphanumeric codes which can be broken down as follows:

- A 2-character number identifying the Issuing Office assigned by ENTSO-E.
- One Character identifying the object type that the code represents.
- 12 digits, uppercase characters or minus signs allocated by the issuing office
- 1 check character to ensure the code validity.

Valid characters of an EIC code are A-Z, 0-9 and “-“.

Administration of EIC codes.

EIC codes are supplied and administered either by Local Issuing Offices or by the Central Issuing Office.

Central Issuing Office (CIO) – The CIO supplies and administers EIC codes for Local Issuing Offices, Areas and System Operators. It also maintains the Central EIC repository (EIC codes used within the Internal European Market) and secures that no duplicate entries exist.

Local Issuing Office (LIO) – A LIO is authorized by ENTSO-E to supply and administer EIC codes to any market participant within either the Energy Internal European Market or a local/county market. It respects a number of well defined rules to ensure homogeneous code allocation and maintains a list of locally issued EIC codes.

The list of the web sites of the CIO and registered ENTSO-E LIOs is to be found at the following URL: <https://www.entsoe.eu/resources/edi-library/links/>.

Allocation of an EIC code to a market participant

The allocation process can be broken down to three main stages:

- Submission by the market participant: A market participant applies to the LIO for a Local or International EIC code.
- Validation, verification and allocation: The LIO validates the credentials of the market participant. Subsequently, the LIO verifies by querying the market participants’ information that an EIC code does not exist already in the LIO’s database and on the CIO’s database/website. Finally the LIO allocates the code.
- Integration and publication: The LIO publishes the allocated EIC code on its LIO web page. In case of an International EIC code, the CIO ensures required EIC consistency, integrates the EIC code into the Central Repository and finally publishes on a weekly basis.

The same process steps are followed in the case of deactivation of an EIC code or modification of EIC code’s supporting attributes (Display Name, etc...).

Status of EIC codes

The status of an EIC code can be either activated or deactivated.

- **Activated:** The code is active and can be used in EDI documents.
- **Deactivated:** The code is no longer being used in the Energy Internal European Market and is placed in a list of deactivated codes published on the LIO Website.

Q&A on EIC codes:

- 49 1. Q: A market participant already possesses an international EIC code allocated by its national LIO. If this market
50 participant wants to participate in another market area should it apply for a new EIC code? Can a single market
51 participant have different EIC codes for different roles (Balance Responsible Party, Capacity Trader, etc.)?
52 A: *No, a unique and single International EIC code is enough to participate within the Energy Internal European
53 Market. No, the EIC code is to be used to identify a market participant independently of its role (there is a different
54 attribute to handle the role in the XML document).*
- 55 2. Q: Where should a new market participant apply for an EIC code?
56 A: *It is strongly recommended that a new market participant applies for an EIC code in the nearest LIO available. If the
57 scope of company's operations is limited to one area only, they should apply for a local code. In any other case they
58 should apply for an International EIC code. They may also apply to the EFET LIO for traders or EASEE-Gas/Edig@s
59 LIO for the gas sector.*
- 60 3. Q: A market participant operates in both the electricity and gas markets, how many EIC codes should it have?
61 A: *There shall be only one EIC code per market participant regardless of whether it participates in one or both energy
62 markets.*
- 63 4. Q: A market participant company has operations in many countries. How should those operations be addressed via the
64 EIC coding scheme?
65 A: *Object type "V" identifies a specific organizational unit or IT system within a company. Thus a company identified
66 with a unique "X" type code, may have multiple "V" type codes.*
- 67 5. Q: If a market participant alters the name of the company should the EIC code change?
68 A: *No, the EIC code should not change, though the Display Name and the EIC name of the company will change.*
- 69 6. Q: Can a participant request a specific EIC code, which represents the name of the company?
70 A: *As per ENTSO-E's Market Committee's decision in 2010, it is strongly recommended that EIC codes should be non-
71 significant Alphanumeric codes. This maintains the uniqueness of the code and stability of the coding system, e.g.
72 10X1001A1001A248 is the EIC code of the Danish TSO.*
- 73 7. Q: What is the relationship between a market participant's company, its corresponding EIC code and its VAT?
74 A: *It is strongly recommended that there is a one to one relationship between a market participants' company, its
75 corresponding EIC and its VAT in the context of REMIT. National legislative and regulatory aspects that might hinder
76 the above are to be taken into account.*
- 77 8. Q: Where information regarding EIC codes can be found?
78 A: *Every LIO has a service for providing information on local EIC codes. For international EIC codes refer to
79 <http://www.eiccodes.eu/> for the list of EIC codes for Parties(X codes), Areas (Y codes), etc.*
- 80 9. Q: Where can more information concerning the governance of EIC codes be found?
81 A: *The EIC standard is maintained by ENTSO-E and can be downloaded by choosing "EIC Reference Manual" on the
82 page of the following URL: <http://www.eiccodes.eu/>*
- 83 10. Q: What is the process for deactivating an EIC code?
84 A: *The market participant sends the request to the LIO that has issued the code. For international EIC codes, the LIO
85 then relays this information to the CIO. The specific EIC code enters the deactivation list (local or international) for a
86 two month period. The international deactivation list is regularly forwarded to all LIOs. If the code is not reported as
87 used after the two month period it is then deactivated.*
- 88 11. Q: How to know which LIO is in charge of my EIC code?
89 A: *The two first characters of the EIC code identify the LIO that has issued the EIC code and who is in charge of
90 maintaining it, i.e. "I2" is the Swiss Local Issuing Office. The list of all the LIO is to be found at
91 <https://www.entsoe.eu/resources/edi-library/links/> with the web site address and the e-mail address of the service to
92 contact in case of any questions.*
- 93 12. Q: Who is in charge of updating the information on my EIC code?
94 A: *The LIO having issued the EIC code is in charge of maintaining it. However, the source of the information, Name,
95 Display Name, VAT code, contact person, etc. is the market participant itself.*
- 96 13. Q: I want to trade with another market participant, how to find its EIC code?
97 A: *As stated, EIC code is only a code. To trade with a counterpart, you have to enter within a contractual relation; and it
98 is there that the parties shall provide the EIC codes to be used. You can assess the correctness of the delivered EIC code
99 as stated in question 11.*
- 100

101
102
103
104
105
106

14. Q: A market participant provides me with its EIC code, but it is not listed on the LIO web site?

A: *Only published EIC codes in the web sites referenced by ENTSO-E are valid EIC codes.*

15. Q: Is a border area defined by an EIC code an oriented border area?

A: *No a border is not oriented, it defines only an area. In the XML document, the attributes "InArea" and "OutArea" provide the orientation of the flow. The EIC code, 10YDOM-1001A0036, identifies only the Border Area Italy Slovenia and does not provide any information on the flow either from Italy to Slovenia or from Slovenia to Italy.*