

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, the EIC also covers other entities by allocating a unique code to the following object types:

- Parties – object type “X”, such as a Balance Responsible Parties, System Operators, etc.
- 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 party 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 recognized energy organization 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 party applies to the LIO for a Local or International EIC code.
- Validation and allocation: The LIO validates the credentials of the market participant and allocates the code.
- Verification and Integration: The LIO publishes the allocated EIC code on its LIO web page. In case of an International EIC code, the CIO verifies and integrates the EIC code into the Central Repository.

The same process steps are followed in the case of modification or deactivation of an EIC code.

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 only visible to LIOs.

44 Q&A on EIC codes:

- 45 1. Q: A market participant already possesses an international EIC code allocated by its national LIO. If this market
 46 participant wants to participate in another market area should it apply for a new EIC code? Can a single market
 47 participant have different EIC codes for different roles (Balance Responsible Party, Capacity Trader, etc.)?
 48 A: *No, a **unique and single International EIC code is enough** to participate within the Energy Internal European
 49 Market. No, the EIC code is to be used to identify a company whatever is the role (there is a different attribute to handle
 50 the role in the XML document).*
- 51 2. Q: Where should a new participant to the market apply for an EIC code?
 52 A: *A new participant should apply for an EIC code in the nearest LIO available. If the scope of company's operations is
 53 limited to one area only, they should apply for a local code. In any other case they should apply for an International EIC
 54 code. They may also apply to the EFET LIO for traders or EASEE-Gas/Edig@s LIO for the gas sector.*
- 55 3. Q: A market participant company operates in both the electricity and gas markets, how many EIC codes should it have?
 56 A: *There shall be **only one EIC code per party** regardless of whether it participates in one or both energy markets.*
- 57 4. Q: A market participant company has operations in many countries. How should those operations be addressed via the
 58 EIC coding scheme?
 59 A: *Object type "V" identifies a specific organizational unit or IT system within a company. Thus a company identified
 60 with a unique "X" type code, may have multiple "V" type codes.*
- 61 5. Q: If a market participant alters the name of the company should the EIC code change?
 62 A: *No, the EIC code should not change, though the Display Name and the EIC name of the company will change.*
- 63 6. Q: Can a participant request a specific EIC code, which represents the name of the company?
 64 A: *It is strongly recommended that EIC codes should be non-significant Alphanumeric codes. This maintains the
 65 uniqueness of the code and stability of the coding system, e.g. 10X1001A1001A248 is the EIC code of the Danish TSO.*
- 66 7. Q: Where information regarding EIC codes can be found?
 67 A: *Every LIO has a service for providing information on local EIC codes. For international EIC codes refer to
 68 <http://www.eiccodes.eu/> for the list of EIC codes for Parties(X codes), Areas (Y codes), etc.*
- 69 8. Q: Where can more information concerning the governance of EIC codes be found?
 70 A: *The EIC standard is maintained by ENTSO-E and can be downloaded by choosing "EIC Reference Manual" on the
 71 page of the following URL: <http://www.eiccodes.eu/>*
- 72 9. Q: What is the process for deactivating an EIC code?
 73 A: *The market participant sends the request to the LIO that has issued the code. For international EIC codes, the LIO
 74 then relays this information to the CIO. The specific EIC code enters the deactivation list (local or international) for a
 75 two month period. The international deactivation list is regularly forwarded to all LIOs. If the code is reported as unused
 76 after the two month period it is then deactivated.*
- 77 10. Q: How to know which LIO is in charge of my EIC code?
 78 A: *The two first characters of the EIC code identify the LIO that has issued the EIC code and who is in charge of
 79 maintaining it, i.e. "12" is the Swiss Local Issuing Office. The list of all the LIO is to be found at
 80 <https://www.entsoe.eu/resources/edi-library/links/> with the web site address and the e-mail address of the service to
 81 contact in case of troubles.*
- 82 11. Q: Who is in charge of updating the information on my EIC code?
 83 A: *The LIO having issued the EIC code is in charge of maintaining it. However, the source of the information, Name,
 84 Display Name, VAT code, contact person, etc. is the market participant itself.*
- 85 12. Q: I want to trade with another party, how to find its EIC code?
 86 A: *As stated, EIC code is only a code. To trade with a counterpart, you have to enter within a contractual relation; and it
 87 is there that the parties shall provide the EIC codes to be used. You can assess the correctness of the delivered EIC code
 88 as stated in question 10.*
- 89 13. Q: A party provides me with its EIC code, but it is not listed on the LIO web site?
 90 A: *Only published EIC codes in the web sites referenced by ENTSO-E are valid EIC codes.*
- 91 14. Q: Is a border area defined by an EIC code an oriented border area?
 92 A: *No a border is not oriented, it defines only an area. In the XML document, the attributes "InArea" and "OutArea"
 93 provide the orientation of the flow. The EIC code, 10YDOM-1001A0036, identifies only the Border Area Italy Slovenia
 94 and does not provide any information on the flow either from Italy to Slovenia or from Slovenia to Italy.*