

ICC WCF CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN ACTIVITIES

27 April 2022 | UNESCAP-WCO-ICC-ADB Webinar on Digitalizing
Certificates of Origin

Our mission

4 Priorities for Action

1 Reinforce the role of chambers of commerce as trade facilitation organizations

2 Harmonize certification standards and processes

3 Promote role of chambers as natural agencies in verifying origin

4 Develop new trade service for chambers

TWO MAJOR TYPES OF CO

Non-Preferential

- The main type issued by chambers are "**Non-Preferential CO**", i.e. "ordinary COs" which certify that the country of origin of a particular product does not qualify for any preferential treatment.
- Primarily issued by Chambers of Commerce

Preferential

- "Preferential CO" refer to CO which enable buyers to claim for a preferential tariff treatment when importing the products under one of the Schemes of Preferences or Free Trade Agreements. e.g. Nafta, Commonwealth Preference Certificate.
- Primarily issued by Customs Authorities and Ministries

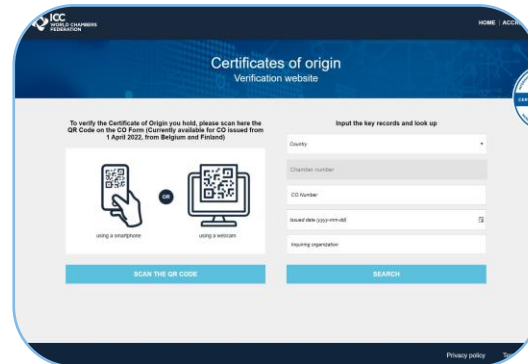
WHAT IS ICC OFFERING?



CO Guidelines



CO Accreditation Chain



CO Verification website



CO Online training

SECOND EDITION OF THE CO GUIDELINES

Facilitating trade through global origin procedures

- Aim to provide chambers of commerce and exporters with updates on new processes, including digitalization of the CO process.
- This revised edition:
 - ✓ provides an overview of the latest COs developments, notably digitalization;
 - ✓ deals with the issuing procedures for non-preferential COs;
 - ✓ covers the determination and verification of origin;
 - ✓ explains chamber's involvement with preferential COs.



Available on <https://2go.iccwbo.org/>

CO ACCREDITATION CHAIN

International recognition

- Based on the CO Guidelines, Chambers commit to the highest level of quality, implementing transparent and accountable verification procedures
- Accredited Chambers are allowed to use the ICC WCF international quality label on their CO forms, which would reinforce their integrity and credibility as competent trusted third parties in the issuance of COs when goods arrive at the Customs entry point
- An accreditation committee has been set up to review the applications and approve memberships

1 Consignor	No. RA 086296	ORIGINAL
2 Consignee	EUROPEAN COMMUNITY CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN	
3 Country of Origin		
4 Transport details (Optional)	5 Remarks	
6 Item number, marks, number and kind of packages; description of goods		7 Quantity
SPECIMEN		
8 THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORITY CERTIFIES THAT THE GOODS DESCRIBED ABOVE ORIGINATE IN THE COUNTRY SHOWN IN BOX 3 LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY 		
Place and date of issue; name, signature and stamp of competent authority		

DTVVJ5/5/2 Nationwide Print

WHO ARE THE ACCREDITED MEMBERS?



THE CANADIAN
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE



FINLAND
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



WHO ARE THE ACCREDITED MEMBERS?

To date, we have:

- 31 countries members in the CO Chain, represented by their National Chambers, Austria and Brazil being the latest members
- Total of 733 Chambers around the world issuing annually around 8,5 million COs bearing the ICC WCF CO Label.



CO VERIFICATION WEBSITE

Security and efficiency

- Launched in January 2014 at the World Customs Organization
- Aims to offer Chambers and Customs Authorities the possibility to verify the authenticity of Certificates of Origin online
- An update is sent to Customs administrations on annual basis



The banner features a blue and green color scheme with a network background. At the top left is the ICC logo (International Chamber of Commerce) and the text 'CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN' and 'WORLD CHAMBERS FEDERATION'. To the right, the title 'Verification Website' is displayed in large blue letters, with 'UPGRADED VERSION' in smaller text below it. The main content is divided into three sections: 'WHAT IS IT?' which explains the purpose of the website, 'OBJECTIVES' which lists the goals, and 'NEW UPDATES' which highlights recent changes. Below these are three icons representing different features: a document for 'Additional information displayed', a QR code for 'Scan the QR code on the verification website', and a person at a laptop for 'Want to see the whole CO form?'. At the bottom, a dark blue bar contains the text 'ACCESS THE PLATFORM NOW' and the website URL 'certificates.iccwbo.org'. The ICC logo and 'WORLD CHAMBERS FEDERATION' text are also present in the bottom right corner.

 **Verification Website**
UPGRADED VERSION

WHAT IS IT?
Helps customs administration to authenticate Certificates of Origin issued by accredited chambers members of the CO Accreditation Chain.

OBJECTIVES
Ensure that all COs issued by accredited chambers and bearing the ICC CO Label can be verified on a central verification website.

NEW UPDATES

 **Additional information displayed:** Description of goods, country of origin, country of destination, etc.

 **Scan the QR code on the verification website** to see the information directly displayed.

 **Want to see the whole CO form?** The website will redirect you to the issuing chamber's system or its national verification website.

ACCESS THE PLATFORM NOW
certificates.iccwbo.org

 **INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  **WORLD CHAMBERS FEDERATION**

Certificates of origin

Verification website



To verify the Certificate of Origin you hold, please scan here the QR Code on the CO Form (Currently available for CO issued from 1 April 2022, from Belgium and Finland)



using a smartphone

OR



using a webcam

SCAN THE QR CODE

Input the key records and look up

Switzerland ▼

(CH2001101) Handelskammer beider Basel ▼

1277974

2022-03-22



icc|

SEARCH

Certificates of origin

Verification website



[BACK TO SEARCH FORM](#)

This certificate of origin is valid. This is all the information shared by the chamber. If a download link is presented to you, you can download the original CO.

Certificate data

Chamber [Handelskammer beider Basel / CH2001101](#)

CO Number 1277974

Issuing date 2022-03-22

Exporter Aquametro Oil & Marine AG

HOW ARE WE ORGANISED?

An International CO Council

- Set up to enhance and promote the unique position of chambers as issuing agents of non-preferential and preferential certificates of origin. The Council is a global forum facilitating collaboration between chambers worldwide.

Chair: Martin Van der Weide, Policy Advisor Export and Origin, The Netherlands Chamber of Commerce (Netherlands)

Deputy Chair: Luc Dardaud, Manager Trade Facilitation department, Paris Region Chamber of Commerce (France)

TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

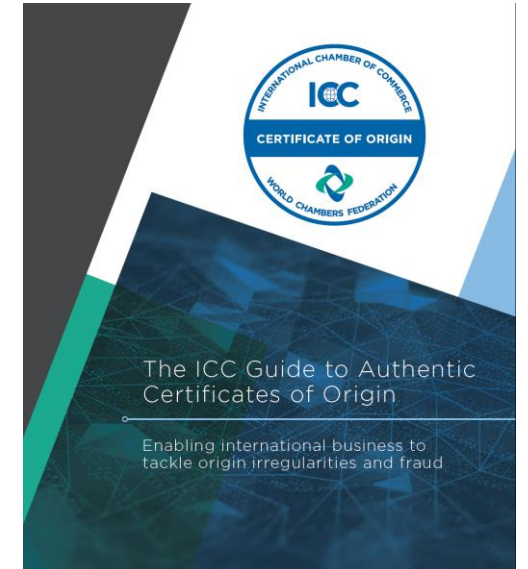
An Electronic CO Task Force

- Raise the level of acceptability of eCO by stakeholders including Customs Administrations, banks for documentary credit clearance, insurance companies and importers.
- Provide information and advice to chambers of commerce, especially members of the CO Council, about eCOs and the implementation of eCO issuing system.
- Brief chambers of commerce on relevant new developments in the field. For example, the Task Force could evaluate the blockchain technology and how it could be applied as a useful tool to address challenges to trade digitalisation.

ICC “MINI-GUIDES”

With the support of the CO Chairmanship, ICC has created **two mini-guides**:

1. To provide **guidance to importers and customs authorities** on the authenticity of COs, to fight against fake documents and to advocate the issue of eCOs
 2. To **Chambers of commerce** who have not yet implemented an electronic CO system, explaining why eCO is the way forward (more secured, can be issued automatically) and how the CO Chain can help.
- It was noted that during the Covid-19 crisis, Chambers who could handle the situation were those having already implemented an electronic system for COs



DIGITALIZING CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Digital CO

- Not difficult – most chambers of Commerce do have a system for e-CO's
- The manual document is more and less changed into a digital document, same functionalities
- In the Netherlands 100% e-CO's, this is the application process online
- No wet / stamps and signatures anymore
- Most documents are still printed by the exporter on his own premises

DIGITALIZING CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Challenges

- No one likes changes. We are at 100% e-CO's in the Netherlands, only reason is because it is mandatory.
- If it was not mandatory, we would still have 30 – 40 % manual documents.
- Without a wet stamp and signature, are the documents accepted ? Even that you can proof that they are well accepted, it still is an issue – wrong information coming from the importer.

DIGITALIZING CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Challenges

- Turning a manual document into a digital document is not complex anymore, on the issuing side no more challenges from a technical perspective – best practices and guidelines are there to be shared.
- The challenge is the connection between the exporting country and the importing country. COs from the Netherlands go to 150 destinations.
- Developments in these destinations – single window, blockchain projects.
- Interoperability – this is the challenge for the future – not to digitalize the CO

Thank you.



ABOUT ICC

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) is the institutional representative of more than 45 million companies in over 100 countries. ICC's core mission is to make business work for everyone, every day, everywhere. Through a unique mix of advocacy, solutions and standard setting, we promote international trade, responsible business conduct and a global approach to regulation, in addition to providing market-leading dispute resolution services. Our members include many of the world's leading companies, SMEs, business associations and local chambers of commerce.

www.iccwbo.org Follow us on Twitter: [@iccwbo](https://twitter.com/iccwbo)



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