

Release Information: Opera 3 (2.80.50)

This release includes functional improvements for the new Brexit rules which come into force 1 January 2021. These are in addition to the Postponed VAT Accounting version 2.80.00 released in November.

EORI Number

From 1 January 2021 companies will need an EORI (Economic Operators Registration Identification) number to move goods between Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and the EU. Also, companies might need an EORI number to move goods to or from Northern Ireland.

If a company is moving goods between Great Britain and the EU, or Northern Ireland then they must apply for an EORI number, you can use the following link: [Apply for an EORI number](#). If a company does not have an EORI number, then they may have increased costs and delays. For example, if HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) cannot clear the goods then the company may have to pay storage fees.

In Opera 3 v2.80.50, the Company Profiles form has the ability to store three EORI numbers. These are:

- First (main) EORI number is for a GB EORI.
- Second EORI number can be used for a Northern Ireland specific EORI (i.e. for traders located in NI).
- Third EORI number can be used for a trader that performs declarations within other EC countries.

Once an EU EORI number has been issued (from any member State) it can be used across the whole of the EU. A person can only hold one EU EORI (i.e. that is issued under the Union Customs Code (UCC) authorisation).

EORI numbers are also stored in the Sales / Processing form for each customer in the EC VAT form. Similarly, EORI numbers are stored on the Purchase / Processing form for each supplier in the EC VAT form. Where the EC VAT application is not activated then the EORI numbers are stored on the VAT form in Sales/Purchase Processing.

Furthermore, two additional spare fields have been added to the EC VAT form or the VAT form on the customer, supplier and the Options form on the stock records, to store additional information. The customer and Partner can, for example, add the EORI numbers and these spare fields to various reports and documentation produced by Opera 3, such as delivery and invoice stationery.

EC Intrastat Report

From 1 January 2021, GB businesses (i.e. those in England, Scotland and Wales) will still have to produce an EC Intrastat report, known as the SD (Statistical Declaration) Report within Opera 3. However, the SD Report must then only consist of imports (i.e. “arrivals”) into GB. Therefore, GB businesses must no longer include “despatches” on their SD Report from 1 January 2021.

However, businesses located in Northern Ireland (NI) must still provide both “arrivals” and “despatches” on their SD Reports.

The Opera 3 Company Profiles form already has an EC Despatches SD option which, when de-selected, prevents despatches from being included on the SD Report. However, when this option is de-selected the user can no longer capture/input associated EC export details when posting sales transactions in the Sales Ledger, SOP, etc. For example; the Commodity Code and Net Mass details will be required on export documentation from 1 January 2021, but they cannot be entered if this option is de-selected.

Therefore, a new option has been added to Company Profiles labelled “Include Despatches on SD Report”. Once de-selected then this will exclude despatches from the SD Report, but still retain the ability to capture EC details such as commodity code when posting sales transactions.

The SD Report selection options will offer Despatches, Arrivals or Both.

VAT Return

As a result of the Brexit changes applicable from 1 January 2021, specifically those related to the Northern Ireland Protocol, the description of boxes 2, 8 and 9 on the UK VAT Return in general will change. All such associated references within Opera 3 (e.g. text on VAT related processing forms, reports etc.) will be changed likewise, but the changes will only apply from 1 January 2021 onwards. These changes apply to the VAT Return UK-wide (i.e. not just for the VAT Return within NI).

Where the “To date” of the VAT period currently selected for display in the MTD VAT Centre is less than 01/01/2021 then the VAT box text will remain unchanged, otherwise the VAT box text for boxes 2, 8 & 9 will change such that the text “NI protocol” will be appended to the box descriptions.

Other changes added into Opera 3 (2.80.50)

There are a number of other changes added into Opera 3 (2.80.50) to support the requirements of the Brexit version of Opera 3. These can be summarised as follows:

- ***Stock Processing***

A new Gross Weight field will be added to the Opera 3 Stock Processing form under the Options section. This Gross Weight figure could be printed on associated stock related documents such as the Delivery Note. This Gross Weight field will be included in stock reports such as the Stock Record Sheet.

Two additional spare fields have been added to the Options form on the stock records, to store additional information. Again, these can be included on the stock related documents produced by the system.

- ***Additional Delivery Note Design***

A new delivery note report design has been added into Opera 3, whereby the delivery note will in fact be an example of showing additional export documentation details that can be included in a report design (for example: as would appear on a commercial invoice).

This new delivery note provides Partners with a base design from which they can produce a custom commercial invoice for their customers. The actual customer design is likely to be specific to each customer's requirements. A delivery note is likely to be produced & provided before the customer is actually invoiced and this is why this new design has been created. If the customer is not using the delivery process, then the same concept can be applied to the sales order design.

The new design will include, for example; company EORI number, customer EORI number, detail line commodity codes, unit weight, country of origin, new gross weight field, and so on. For those that wish to include a number of pallets on that document then they could simply add a description only item.