

identification of Intermodal Loading Units in Europe

An ILU-Code for every European loading unit

Craneable semi-trailers and swap-bodies must from now on be identified with an ILU-Code to be eligible for intermodal transport. The transition period, allowing all loading units to be equipped with an ILU-Code, is set until 1 July 2014.

The ILU-Code

The ILU-Code is a new owner-identifier for European loading units. Its structure is similar to the worldwide renowned BIC-Code used to identify millions of maritime containers.

ILU-Code: three elements



Companies should make sure that they register their ILU-Code Owner-key in time so as to meet the markings deadline. The best abbreviation relative to their company name can be ensured if registering as soon as possible.



How to proceed?

1. Register your Owner-key

On the website www.ilu-code.eu, you should register your company data and choose an Owner-key. Upon payment of the registration fee your code is registered and officially published in the ILU-Code Register. With your Owner-key, you can directly identify your loading units: one single Owner-key in combination with the freely chosen registration number allows you to mark up to 999.999 loading units.

2. Mark your units

For every loading unit -newly purchased or already owned-, you may either ask the manufacturer to take care of the marking, or implement it yourself for instance with self-adhesive labels that you can order on the ILU-Code website.





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Advantages of the ILU-Code

- Every actor of the intermodal transport-chain (railway undertakings, customs, terminal and port managers, etc.) can easily trace the owner of a loading unit through the Internet-based Register and soon through a smartphone.
- As an owner, receive reliable tracking and tracing information. No more expensive and time consuming search for "lost" units due to inaccurate data transmission.
- The check-digit reveals 95% of data entry errors.
 It relieves the burden of most corrections due to inaccurate transport documents and invoices.
- The software used to process the BIC-Code for maritime containers is suitable for the technically compatible ILU-Code.

- The ILU- or BIC-Codes are suitable for optical character recognition (OCR). ILU-Code equipped loading units can rapidly be processed at terminals, ports and by big shippers.
- Quick and easy compliance with high-level security requirements at ports and EU external borders, allowing customs and official authorities to identify the owner any time; access to "priority/fast lanes".
- No need for a new codification with additional costs when selling or purchasing used loading units.
- No more confusion as the codification numbers and the vehicle's license number are not used in parallel to the owner identification anymore.



