

Notes on preliminary survey of trade in services between Switzerland and foreign countries

Definition of trade in services with foreign countries

Trade in services with foreign countries is deemed to have taken place when one of the contracting parties is resident/domiciled in Switzerland and the other is either resident/domiciled in a foreign country or is a foreign state, an international organisation or a diplomatic institution (embassy, consulate) of a foreign state. Also included is all cross-border trade in services within corporate groups. The Principality of Liechtenstein is classed as part of the domestic market.

Exports: The service recipient is resident/domiciled in a foreign country while the service provider is located in Switzerland or the Principality of Liechtenstein.

Imports: The service recipient is resident/domiciled in Switzerland or the Principality of Liechtenstein while the service provider is located in a foreign country.

No trade in services with foreign countries takes place if both contracting parties are resident/domiciled in Switzerland or the Principality of Liechtenstein. Such services shall not be reported.

REPORTING CATEGORY	EXAMPLES OF EXPORTS: RECEIPTS FROM SALES TO OTHER COUNTRIES	EXAMPLES OF IMPORTS: EXPENSES FOR PURCHASES FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES
<p>Construction services (incl. assembly work, maintenance, renovation and the like) Remuneration for construction works to buildings, real estate, roads, bridges, dams and other facilities. These include all new construction, renovation, extension, assembly work, installation, painting, plumbing and demolition works. Incl. remuneration for construction project management plus expenses for the purchase of goods (e.g. plant and construction materials) and services (e.g. payment of building workers) needed for construction.</p>		
<p>Building sites abroad <u>Construction services, receipts:</u> Remuneration for construction services provided by a company in Switzerland for a client abroad. <u>Expenses for goods and services for building sites abroad:</u> Expenses for purchases in foreign countries effected by companies in Switzerland for building sites abroad.</p>	<p>Building sites abroad: <u>Construction services, receipts:</u> A contractor in Switzerland builds a footbridge in Munich for a client in Germany. <u>Receipts from sale of goods and services for sites abroad:</u> not possible</p>	<p>Building sites abroad: <u>Construction services, expenses:</u> not possible <u>Expenses for purchase of goods and services for building sites abroad:</u> The contractor in Switzerland buys materials in Munich for construction of the footbridge in Munich.</p>
<p>Domestic building sites <u>Construction services, expenses:</u> Remuneration for construction services provided by a company based abroad for a client in Switzerland. <u>Receipts from goods and services for domestic building sites:</u> Receipts from sales in Switzerland to companies based abroad for domestic building sites.</p>	<p>Domestic building sites: <u>Construction services, receipts:</u> not possible <u>Receipts from sale of goods and services for domestic sites:</u> A company in Switzerland leases scaffolding to a contractor in France which is refurbishing an office complex in Switzerland.</p>	<p>Domestic building sites: <u>Construction services, expenses:</u> A company in Switzerland commissions a contractor in France to renovate an office complex in Switzerland. <u>Expenses for purchase of goods and services for domestic sites:</u> not possible</p>
<p>Financial services (asset management, lending, custody and the like) Commissions/brokerage fees/charges for financial intermediation and associated services such as credit brokerage, management of operating/custody accounts, asset management, investment advice, securities underwriting, financial leasing, documentary credit business, factoring, custody, securities trading and settlement, mergers and acquisitions, fiduciary transactions and the like. Excl. services relating to insurance and pension funds and excl. interest payments.</p>	<p>A bank in Switzerland provides lending-related services for a company in Portugal.</p>	<p>A company in Switzerland pays charges to a bank in Singapore for securities settlement.</p>
<p>Research and development (incl. product development and the like) Remuneration for services related to basic and applied research, product and process development. Incl. complete sale of results from R&D services.</p>	<p>A university in Switzerland conducts basic research in a specific field for a company in France.</p>	<p>A biotech company in Switzerland commissions a company in the US to develop a new product.</p>
<p>Use of intellectual property (licence fees and royalties) Fees for use of proprietary rights, e.g. relating to patents, trademarks, copyrights, industrial processes, industrial and product designs, franchising; licence fees for reproduction and/or distribution of intellectual property (copyrights on books and manuscripts, computer software, films and music) and exercise of associated rights (live appearances, TV, cable or satellite broadcasting rights).</p>	<p>A chemicals company in Switzerland grants a subsidiary in the US the use of a patent against payment.</p>	<p>A company in Switzerland pays fees to a company in the US for the right to market a PC game in Switzerland.</p>
<p>Architectural/engineering/technical services Remuneration for architectural design work in urban and other development projects; remuneration for planning, project design and supervision for bridge, dam and airport schemes, design of turnkey structures, etc.; remuneration for land surveys, cartography, product testing and certification plus technical inspection services.</p>	<p>An architectural practice in Switzerland is commissioned by a company in Italy to prepare architectural drawings for a museum extension in Milan.</p>	<p>A contractor in Switzerland is provided with technical counselling by an engineering practice in France with regard to a tunnelling project.</p>
<p>Operating leasing/trade-related services (brokerage and the like) <i>Operating leasing</i> Remuneration for lease or rent of plant, equipment and other capital or material goods; chartering or rent of means of transport without crew/operating staff (vessels, aircraft, rail wagons, containers, drilling rigs etc.); rental of commercial premises. With operating leasing (unlike financial leasing), the subject of the lease does not feature in the lessee's balance sheet. Excl. lease of telecommunications infrastructure, rental of holiday apartments. <i>Trade-related services</i> Remuneration for brokerage and other assistance in connection with trade in goods and services, payable to traders, commercial agents, commodity and capital goods brokers, auctioneers and commission agents. Excl. brokerage of insurance, transportation or financial services.</p>	<p><i>Operating leasing</i> A cargo company in Switzerland leases containers for a freight consignment to a merchandise trader in Germany. <i>Trade-related services</i> A merchandise broker in Switzerland is commissioned by a trading company in Poland to investigate the markets in which a specific product is to be sold and at what prices.</p>	<p><i>Operating leasing</i> An airline in Switzerland charters a plane without crew from an airline in Germany. <i>Trade-related services</i> A company in Switzerland commissions an estate agent in France to find an industrial property near Lake Geneva.</p>

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<p>Telecommunications/computer/information services <i>Telecommunications services</i> Net settlement payments between telecommunications companies and foreign partners; remuneration for transmission of information (signals, text, sound, images etc.) by means of electronic media (e-mail, telephone, radio, satellite etc.) as well as teleconferencing and supporting activities. Excl. value of transmitted information, excl. installation of telecommunications infrastructure.</p> <p><i>Computer services</i> Remuneration for analysis, development and programming of ready-to-use systems; development, production, supply and documentation for client-specific software (custom software) and operating systems, hardware and software consultancy and implementation, hardware and network administration; web hosting; software supply by e-mail or Internet (downloading); maintenance; data processing. Excl. supply of standard software (e.g. Microsoft Office) on physical data media.</p> <p><i>Information services</i> Remuneration for provision of news, photos, editorials, feature articles and documentary reports to the media. Remuneration for database services such as database design, data storage and retention, dissemination of data and databases (incl. directories and mailing lists), Internet search engines. Remuneration for library and archiving services and for direct mailing of newspapers and journals (individual subscriptions only, no mass subscriptions).</p>	<p><i>Telecommunications services</i> A telecommunications company in Switzerland receives payments from a telecommunications company in Italy for charges in connection with roaming services.</p> <p><i>Computer services</i> A parent company in Switzerland carries out software maintenance for a subsidiary in the US.</p> <p><i>Information services</i> A company in Switzerland creates a customer database for a company based abroad.</p>	<p><i>Telecommunications services</i> A company in Switzerland uses the satellite-based transmission services of a company in the US.</p> <p><i>Computer services</i> A company in Switzerland commissions a company in Germany to develop a corporate software application.</p> <p><i>Information services</i> A media company in Switzerland pays fees to a media company in the UK for the regular provision of stock market data.</p>
<p>Transport (passengers, freight) and associated services Remuneration for the international carriage of passengers and freight (by air, road, rail or water), incl. space transport; auxiliary transport services; electricity transmission and movement of oil and gas by pipeline; postal and courier services. Incl. chartering or rent of means of transport with crew. Excl. passenger transport within Switzerland.</p>	<p><i>Freight</i> A forwarding agent in Switzerland ships freight from Italy through Switzerland to Germany for a trading company in Italy.</p> <p><i>Passengers</i> An airline in Switzerland transports a German businesswoman from Munich (or Zurich) to Moscow.</p>	<p><i>Freight</i> A trading company in Switzerland commissions a forwarding agent in Spain to ship freight from Spain to Switzerland.</p> <p><i>Passengers</i> An airline headquartered in Germany transports a person resident in Switzerland from Moscow to Munich.</p>
<p>Fiduciary services/corporate and legal advice/tax consultancy <i>Fiduciary services</i> Remuneration for bookkeeping, accounting, auditing and tax consultancy.</p> <p><i>Consulting, public relations</i> Remuneration for consulting, trading recommendations and advice regarding corporate policy and strategy, integral planning plus organisational structuring and control, counselling in connection with project, production and marketing management, human resources and bookkeeping management, public relations.</p> <p><i>Legal advice</i> Remuneration for legal advice and representation in legal and judicial proceedings, preparation of legal documents and instruments, certification and authentication as well as escrow and settlement services.</p>	<p><i>Fiduciary services</i> An auditing company in Switzerland audits the accounts of a company in Germany.</p> <p><i>Consulting, public relations</i> A business consultant in Switzerland advises a corporate group in Ireland on public relations.</p> <p><i>Legal advice</i> A solicitor's office in Switzerland represents a corporate group in Italy in a lawsuit.</p>	<p><i>Fiduciary services</i> A company in Switzerland seeks tax advice from a consultancy firm in the USA.</p> <p><i>Consulting, public relations</i> A company in Switzerland commissions a business consultant in Austria to provide support in the implementation of a new corporate strategy.</p> <p><i>Legal advice</i> A company in Switzerland commissions a solicitor's office headquartered in the United Kingdom to negotiate contracts with third parties.</p>
<p>Advertising/market research/public opinion polling Remuneration for advertising, market research, opinion polls, incl. design, creation and marketing of advertisements by advertising agencies; media placement, incl. purchase and sale of advertising space; exhibition services provided by trade fairs; product marketing; market research; telemarketing and public opinion polling.</p>	<p>An advertising agency in Switzerland is commissioned by an industrial company in Germany to promote its products.</p>	<p>A market research institute in Switzerland commissions a call centre in the Netherlands to conduct opinion polls.</p>
<p>Insurance premiums Premium payments from reinsurance business and for life and non-life insurance: e.g. freight insurance, accident and health insurance, transport insurance, liability insurance, property insurance, pecuniary loss insurance, travel insurance, legal protection insurance, credit insurance, natural hazards insurance etc.</p>	<p>An insurance company in Switzerland receives premiums from an enterprise in France.</p>	<p>An enterprise in Switzerland pays premiums to an insurance company in Austria.</p>
<p>Miscellaneous (recreational services, environmental remediation and the like) Remuneration for services that cannot be allocated to any other service category; e.g. payments for maintenance and repair, manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others, waste disposal, environmental remediation, agricultural services, mining, personal services, cultural services, recreational services etc.</p>	<p>A recycling company in Switzerland recycles PET bottles for a company in France (waste disposal).</p>	<p>A company in Switzerland pays a band from the US to put on a concert in Switzerland (cultural services).</p>
<p>Merchandising Merchandising is defined as the purchase of goods by a company in Switzerland from a foreign company and their subsequent resale to another company abroad. During the transaction, the goods do not cross the Swiss border, or are otherwise not subject to customs clearance in Switzerland. The value of the sold goods stated in the invoice shall be reported. Note: Bonded warehouses are deemed to be outside Swiss territory.</p>	<p>A merchant in Switzerland sells crude oil purchased in Russia to Germany, with the oil not being subject to customs clearance in Switzerland.</p>	<p>(No expenses for goods procurement or other outgoings such as labour costs, transportation costs, insurance premiums etc. shall be stated)</p>