

CodSP-100-ARG

The National Codification Bureau of Argentina

Jan 2017



THE ARGENTINE CODIFICATION SERVICE

1. AIM

The National Cataloguing System of the Argentine Republic was established in 1972 by Law 19900 for the whole national territory and it is in accordance with the doctrine of the NATO Codification System (NCS). Currently, the management of the System falls on the Codification Service for the Defense (SECADE), located in the National Department of Standardization and Technical Certification, in the Ministry of Defense.

Its main goals are:

- a. The identification and codification of items of supply used by military services;
- b. Maintain a centralized database containing relevant national and international data pertaining to the following fields: procurement, spares interchangeability and inventory management;
- c. The maintenance of a Total Item Record (TIR) that holds identification data for each item of supply which has been codified;
- d. The allotment of codes for each item of supply added to the system, according to the proposals of the users, after being screened against the TIR.
- e. Act as unique and mandatory point of contact for all international data exchange (NADEX).
- f. Develop and distribute national cataloguing publications and organize training sessions on codification for personnel of the agencies of the Argentine Armed Forces and Defense suppliers or manufacturers, and for the personnel of the Armed Forces of other South American countries.

2. HISTORY

1964 First contact with the FCS through the Military Aid Program of the USA

1968 The Permanent Board of Codification of items of the Armed Forces is established. Its mission was "to project and direct the adoption of a common system to codify the items used by the Armed Forces, thus enabling unified codification and allowing its integration into the National Codification System."

1971 Argentina is acknowledged as a codifying country by the Secretary General of NATO.
National codes are allotted;

SENAC71 (National Codification Seminar) is organized;

1972 The National Codification System is established by Argentine Law 19900;

1973 The National Codification Service (Argentine NCB) is created;

1997 TIER 1 Agreement is signed with the Group of Directors on Codification;

2001 Law 19900 is repealed;

2002 The Codification Service for the Defense is established by Resolution MD 55/2002;

2009 The NCORE-NG Software is acquired;

2011 The Codification System of Materials for the Defense is established by Resolution MD 144/2011;

2014 The First South American Codification Seminar and the first CATSUR Meeting are held with the UNASUR countries in Buenos Aires;

2016 Argentina signs the TIER 2 Certificate during the 110th Main Group Meeting.

3. ORGANIZATION

The SECADE is the National Cataloguing Agency responsible for the policies, procedures, rules and methodology applied according to the NATO Codification System. It also centralizes the allotment of codes for each item of supply and national manufacturers. The organization of the Defense Cataloguing Service, (SECADE), which is under the management of a Professional Technician, who is subject to a higher authority, the National Director of Standardization and Technical Certification, who, in turn, is subject to the authority of the Undersecretary of Management and Planning for the Defense of the Ministry of Defense. Furthermore, there are Cataloguing Centers for each of the Armed Forces, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Undersecretary of the Defense Logistics Service, composed of civilian and military personnel, who are responsible for the identification and cataloguing of their own items of supply. These centers work closely related to the SECADE, through a Permanent Committee of Codification of Materials for the Defense (COPECAMDEF) and coordinate their tasks to avoid duplications and useless efforts. There are also Cataloguing Centers in companies and bodies related to the Defense, such as the General Department of Military Manufacturing, the Argentine Factory of Airplanes (FAdeA), the Argentine Navy Industrial Complex (CINAR), the National Weather Service, the Navy Hydrography Service, the National Geographic Institute, the Scientific and Technological Institute for the Defense (Citedef), and the Company INVAP. Although the SECADE is currently made up of approximately 20 people, the whole staff dedicated to cataloguing tasks, including military and civilian agencies, numbers 220 people.

4. DATABASE

Since 2009 Argentina has been using to codify the NCORE-NG tool, product of ESG, Germany. This company maintains the system in accordance with ACodP-1 changes twice a year. Transactions from foreign users are processed twice a week. Exchange of codification data via Mailbox System is performed with all NATO and non-NATO countries and NSPA.

5. NCS DATA SEGMENTS

The item oriented data, contained in the total item record (TIR) are stored by segments.
 Segment A – Item Identification Data Segment B – MOE Rule Data Segment C – Item Reference Data Segment K – Item Cancellation-Replacement Data Segment V – Item Characteristics Data (Coded) Segment 8 - NATO Manufacturers Data.

6. TELETRANSMISSION

In 2010, Argentina implemented the NATO Mailbox System (NMBS) which allowed for direct transmission of codification data with the NSPA Agency.

7. CODIFICATION TRAINING

The ARG NCB is responsible for providing training on all codification matters. Training on codification procedures is conducted under two different modules and 5 courses are taught per year:

- Introduction to Codification. This course is tailored for personnel that need to understand the NCS. The duration is 5 days between 10:00 and 16:00 hours.
- Codification training. Extensive codification training is provided to personnel working at the SICATDEF (Cataloguing System of Defense). The duration is 5 days between 10:00 and 16:00 hours.

8. STANDARDIZATION AGREEMENTS (STANAGs)

Argentina has adopted the following:

- 3150 Uniform System of Supply Classification
- 3151 Uniform System of Item Identification
- 4177 Uniform System of Data Acquisition
- 4438 Uniform System of Dissemination of Data Associated with NATO Stock Numbers¹¹.

9. BILATERAL AGREEMENTS.

Argentina currently has bilateral agreements with France (1972), Germany (April 1985; March 2016), the Netherlands (November 1976), Spain (May 1998), Brazil (December 1997), Denmark (2014), Italy (2015), USA (2015), and TIER 1 (March 1997) And TIER 2 (November 2016) with the Chairman of the NATO Group of National Directors on Codofocation A/C 135.

10. POSSIBILITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CODIFICATION SYSTEM BASED ON THE NCS IN SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES

Since 2014, the South American Codification Seminar and the CATSUR (Cataloguing UNASUR) have been held annually. Argentina is actively involved with all the South American countries, in these seminars to encourage regional initiatives of integration.