

CodSP-100-AUS

The National Codification Bureau of Australia

January 2018



Australian Government
Department of Defence

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CODIFICATION BUREAU

ORGANISATION

The Australian National Codification Bureau (NCB) is responsible for the promotion and day-to-day management of the NATO Codification System (NCS) within Australia. The Australian NCB is part of the Department of Defence and is based in Melbourne, Victoria, with a projects shop front in Canberra, Australian Capital Territory. The Australian NCB is the custodian of the MC CATALOGUE System, which contains over 1.4 million NATO Stock Number (NSN) records identifying and describing items of supply used by the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

Australia is a Tier 2 member of the NATO Codification System (NCS) and the Australian NCB represents its interests on the Pacific Area Codification Seminar (PACS), NATO Group of National Directors of Codification (AC/135) and Panel A meetings. The Australian NCB collaborates closely with NATO member nations and is the focus for international codification transactions.

Codification operations in Australia are conducted within the Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group, which incorporates the major acquisition and sustainment elements providing support across the Land, Aerospace, Maritime and EW environments. The Australian NCB offices provide system support files, (containing NCAGE, National Supply Classification, Item Name Codes and FIIG data), systems and Information Technology support. The Codification Bureau provides support for Air Force, Army, and Navy as well as International Codification and local industry.

HISTORY

- 1953 - Joint US/UK invitation for Australia to join American British Canadian Supply Classification system (ABCSC).
- 1955 - Australia assigned "66" code under ABCSC. This was confirmed by the NATO Working Party on Cataloguing the following year.
- 1958 - Australian NCB established.
- 1963 - AC/135 agrees that all NATO countries can establish data exchange with Australia. TIR = 167,000 NSNs.
- 1973 - One millionth item of supply recorded in TIR.
- 1982 - Original CENCAT system goes live.
- 1995 - Tier 1 sponsorship.
- 1998 - Tier 2 sponsorship.
- 2005 - CENCAT-3 goes live.
- 2008 - Australian NCB celebrates its 50th birthday
- 2016 - MC CATALOGUE goes live.

ROLE

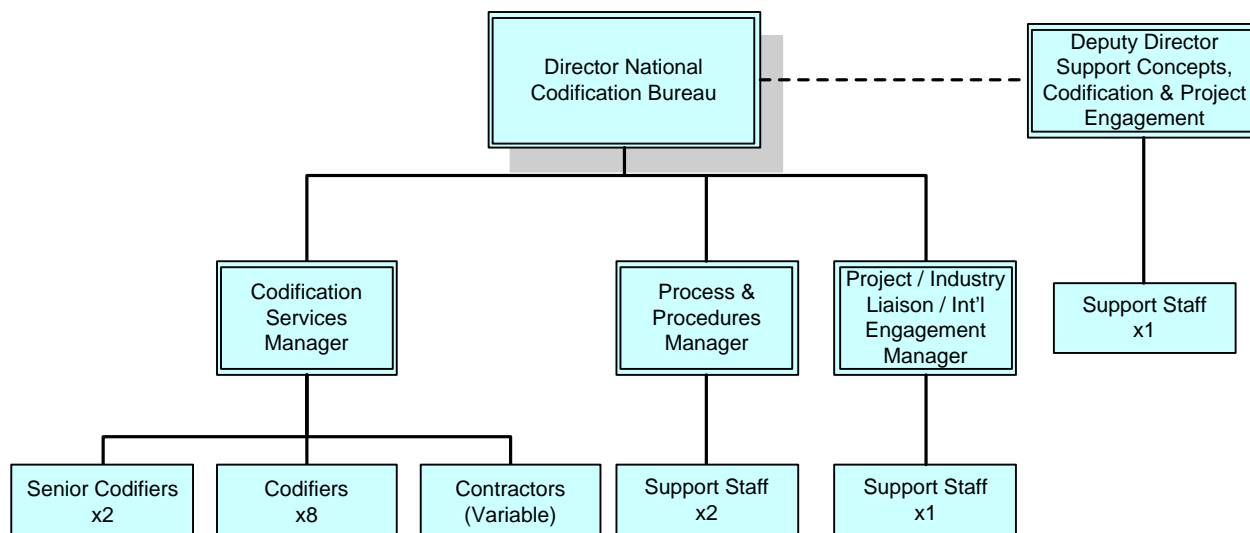
The role of the Australian NCB is to provide codification services to the acquirers, sustainers and logistic managers of Defence materiel.

AIM

Our aim is to provide a service that is responsive to customer needs and maintains the high standards of data quality that underpin the Defence logistic and business environments.

ORGANISATIONAL CHART

The Australian NCBs organisational structure is represented below. The NCB establishment consists of 19 civilian positions (Australian Commonwealth Public Servants), with the capacity to employ a variable number of up to 10 Commonwealth contractors.



TRAINING

The Australian NCB, in conjunction with its training provider, have developed a suite of training modules to ensure all codification officers are certified and proficient in the process of codification and the use of information systems supporting the process.

After successful completion of the suite of training modules, codification officers are issued a competency in codification.

SYSTEM

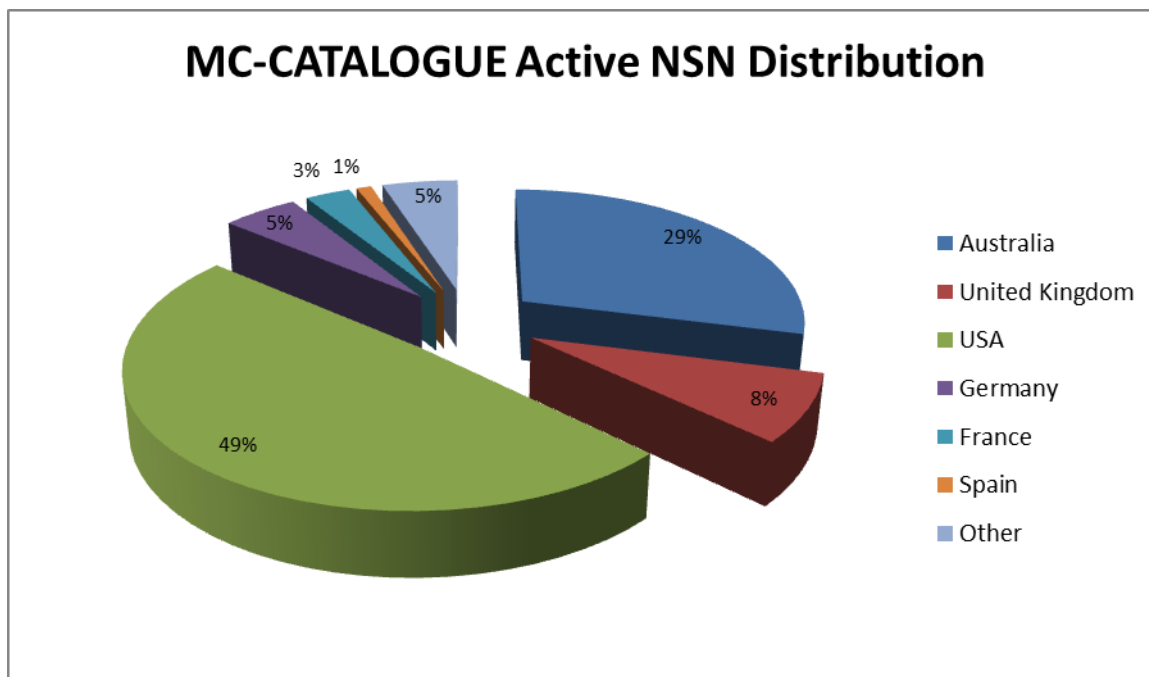
MC CATALOGUE is the Australian NCBs COTS codification information system which was recently implemented as a Software as a Service (SaaS) solution in July 2016. It replaced the ageing CENCAT-3 bespoke system which has served the NCB well over the last 10 years. MC CATALOGUE is provided by AURA, s.r.o. of the Czech Republic who is also engaged to provide ongoing support of the software.

MC CATALOGUE provides a work flow module that allows Australian NCB customers to submit their codification requests directly within the codification tool. This provides a range of efficiencies for the Australian NCB with some 1,700 active customers utilising MC-CATALOGUE.

AUSTRALIAN TIR

The MC CATALOGUE holds the materiel master database for Defence and contains approx. 1.3M items of supply (of which approximately 70% are sourced from overseas), and approx. 1.3M active manufacturer/suppliers (of which more than 96% are sourced from overseas).

The MC CATALOGUE database maintains a range of local and foreign sourced items of supply with the distribution of TIR records graphically represented below:



BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Australia currently has bilateral agreements with the following countries for codification services and/or publications:

Belgium	Italy	UK
Canada	Malaysia	USA
Denmark	Netherlands	Singapore
France	New Zealand	
Germany	Norway	