

Release 13 - What's new

We have made several changes to the simap software in response to user comments.

The changes that are relevant to you as a user are described in this document. The release will be issued in the evening of **March 27, 2017**.

Contract-awarding authorities

- **Additional free text field for contract award criteria (10556):**

A free text field has been added to the invitation to tender and contract award forms. Information on a rating scale for contract award criteria or other factors can be given here, for example. This text field is optional, it is limited to 2000 characters and it will not be published in TED.

3. Decision of acceptance

3.1 Award criteria*

Award criteria ⓘ

Criteria	Weighting

Price

Comments

→

- **Correction of CPV, BKP and NPK Codes (10567):**

Previously, if a wrong CPV code had been entered in an invitation to tender and subsequently changed via a correction, the (corrected) invitation to tender could not be found by entering the CPV code in the search box, despite the correction. In the new release, corrections for CPV codes will be executed as a data modification rather than as a text correction.

Thanks to this change, the (corrected) invitations to tender will now be displayed when entering a CPV code in the search box:

Before:

4.1 Text to correct in the original publication

Position of the text to correct*

Instead of*

It has to say*

(The entire screenshot above is crossed out with a large red 'X')

4. The following positions are to adjust in the original publication

4.1 Text to correct in the original publication

Position of the text to correct: 2.5 Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)
Instead of : 30213000 - Personal computers
It has to say : 30200000 - Computer equipment and supplies

Now:

Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)

To date:
 CPV: 03000000 - Agricultural, farming, fishing, forestry and related products

New: 
 CPV: 30200000 - Computer equipment and supplies

4.2 Data to correct

Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)

To date: 03000000 - Agricultural, farming, fishing, forestry and related products
New: 30200000 - Computer equipment and supplies

The same applies with respect to the BCC and NPK codes for construction tenders.

- **Character limit in text fields due to TED specifications (10616):**

TED imposes a character limit on the “Detailed task description” field of an invitation to tender. Previous simap.ch releases circumvented that restriction on simap.ch pages by cutting off the text at the corresponding point and adding three periods in a row (...) before exporting the data to TED. TED stopped accepting the sequence of three periods in a row some time ago. In such cases, it sends out an email to the relevant contract-awarding authority requesting that the missing text be finalized by providing them directly with the necessary information. These requests from TED caused considerable uncertainty and simap Support was always called on to intervene.

Therefore, a decision was made to limit the number of characters in the simap.ch text field to 1,000 characters. If this maximum length is exceeded, an error message will appear ("This text field cannot contain more than 1,000 characters.").

Bidders

- **Display of lot number with questions in Q&A Forum (10579):**

In the old release, questions that bidders uploaded to the Q&A forum using the Excel function could not be assigned to a lot number because the Excel sheet didn't have a "Lot no." column.

In the new release, the Excel upload sheet for bidders contains a "Lot no." column that permits the assignment of the question to a specific lot number. Therefore, questions can now be assigned to a specific lot number. If the "Lot no." is not filled in, the question will be saved under the lot number "All" and it will then be displayed under all lot numbers.

If a lot number is entered for which the bidder has not registered, an error message will be displayed: "You cannot submit any questions regarding lot number or procurement no. Correct your Excel file and then upload the file to simap again."

Bern, February 2017
Roger Schnyder, Managing Director