# The Dummy's Guide to **Reportable Item Codes (RICs)**





What Are RICs?

NATO Communications and Information Agency Agence OTAN d'information et de communication

RICs are Reportable Item Codes. RICs were created in the mid-1990s to support *Logistics Reporting* in LogFAS (Logistics Functional Area Services). They are mainly used by an (operational) commander to tell units which assets/supplies are on his *Mission Essential Equipment* (MEE) List and by the units to report their holdings in a manner which avoids the need to know about national codification systems and names (including language

differences).

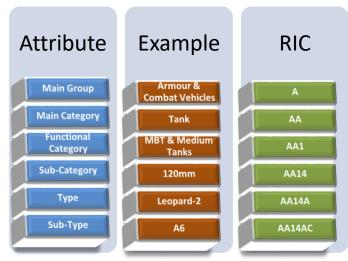
Each RIC is a 6-character alpha-numeric code which identified a *type of asset or supply* through classifying its main characteristics.

This structure allows groups of assets to be easily identified by their main characteristics.

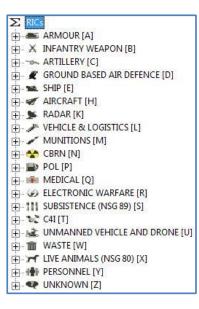
**Definition: RIC Branch** A RIC of less than 6 characters (e.g. AA14)

For example, all 120mm Main Battle Tanks (MBTs) will have RICs starting with the RIC Branch AA14.

RICs are used to report numbers of assets and <u>not</u> to track individual assets (e.g. the number of trucks and not the specific license plate). Also RICs are <u>not</u> used to report spare parts.



RICs are different to NATO Stock Numbers (NSNs), which are used for material management rather than logistics reporting.



## Who Uses The RICs?

The RICs are used by the logistics community (LogFAS), operations planning community (TOPFAS), defence planners (NDPASS and J-DARTS) and in various other NATO and national systems.

## How Are The RICs Managed?

The RICs are owned by ACO and managed by the RIC Configuration Management Board (RIC CMB). A new version of the RICs is published once per year on LOGNET (see below) as a <u>RIC Update File</u>. The changes to the RICs are reviewed by Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and approved by the RIC Configuration Management Board (CMB) under the Logistics Reporting Working Group (<u>LOGREP WG</u>). Each RIC release has a version number and is configuration controlled.

# How Do I Request A Change To The RICs?

Complete a RIC Change Request Form (which you can get from LOGNET) and send it via your (national) RIC Coordinator to the RIC Executive Officer, who passes it to the RIC Manager (see below). If approved by the relevant SMEs and CMB, the changes will be included in the next RIC release.

## How Do I Use RICs In My System?

You may implement RICs in your system by following the guidance in the RIC Specification, which may be downloaded from LOGNET. If your system follows this specification, then it should be compatible with the RIC Updater library, allowing your application to apply the RIC Update files directly.

# Where Do I Go For More Information?

The first place to go is LOGNET, available on both NS and NU.

Internet:	https://lognet.nato.int/
NS WAN:	http://lognet.nato.int/

For internet LOGNET, you will need to request a user account if you do not already possess one. The RIC information is found under the "*Background Data*" tab.

From LOGNET you may download:

Documentation	<ul> <li>The RIC Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)</li> <li>STANAG 4788: RIC Specification</li> <li>The RIC Change Request Form</li> </ul>
Software	•The RIC Viewer Tool •The RIC Updater Library
Data	•The RIC Update Files

For any other information, you may contact the RIC Manager on both internet and NS WAN.

RIC Manager support.ric@ncia.nato.int