

10

YEARS ***
ANNIVERSARY

INTERNATIONAL TAX STAMP
AUTHENTICATION AND
TRACEABILITY ASSOCIATION

ITSA



THE VOICE OF THE TAX STAMP INDUSTRY



- Developing and Promoting Tax Stamp Standard (ISO 22382) and Best Practices
- Liaison Organisation to EU Standards Body
- Advocating Tax Stamp Programmes for Security, Compliance, and Revenue Protection

www.tax-stamps.org

BACKGROUND

Founded in November 2015, ITSA was formed as a voice for the tax stamp industry to advance the benefits and evolving role of tax stamp programmes in an increasingly complex, digital environment.

In an era where tax stamps are combining physical and digital security and traceability technologies, with an expanding role in production monitoring, authentication, supply chain control and enforcement, ITSA has become recognised by government regulators and tax issuing authorities as an advocate for the tax stamp community.

From its original 10 founding members, ITSA has grown to an association of 28 leading providers of tax stamps and their associated components, features, and systems.

CURRENT PROJECTS

- ITSA is currently contributing to the revision of international guidance standard ISO 22382:2018, on best practices in the design, sourcing, issuance, and monitoring of tax stamps. ISO 22382 came up for its 5-year review in 2023, and the revised version is due for publication in early 2026.

Improvements to the new standard include an expanded section on the function of tax stamps and a new annexe assessing the efficacy and suitability of authentication features. Another important change is removing 'excise' from the standard's title, on the grounds that stamps are now also used to collect tax on goods not usually subject to excise tax.

- ITSA has been appointed as liaison organisation to the CEN-CENELEC European standards committee responsible for implementing the Digital Product Passport (DPP).

While the DPP is currently focused on products with a significant environmental impact, the European Commission has indicated that the DPP framework could, going forward, be scaled to cover a wide range of products, including cigarettes. Hence ITSA's interest in helping CEN-CENELEC ensure that DPP standards take into consideration the interoperability between different systems and the security measures needed to prevent non-compliance and illicit trade.

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ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

In the 10 years since ITSA's founding, our key achievements have been in the area of standards development, advocacy, and awareness-raising.

- We funded and supported the creation of the very first ISO standard dedicated to excise tax stamps – published in 2018.
- We advocated at EU and international level for secure tobacco traceability solutions based on tax stamps as providers of physical security features and carriers of unique identifiers.
- We raised awareness among government regulators and tax stamp issuing authorities of the effectiveness of tax stamp and traceability programmes in raising tax revenues and reducing illicit trade. We did this through white papers, webinars, and in-person seminars.

OUR MEMBERS



MEMBER BENEFITS

Through its different projects, ITSA is a collective, advocative voice for its members, in front of issuing authorities and other decision makers. To summarise, membership of ITSA will allow you to:

- Shape the direction of tax stamp specification, deployment and implementation.
- Promote the interests of the tax stamp industry and advance the benefits of tax stamp programmes at international, regional and national level, thereby demonstrating your leadership in this field.
- Gain valuable 'face-time' with issuing authorities through regional workshops, conference-related activities, and direct enquiries received by the secretariat and shared with members.

In addition, the membership package includes:

- A monthly downloadable copy of the 12-page publication Tax Stamp & Authentication News™ (normal subscription costs £2,625).
- 20% off the delegate fee for attending the annual Tax Stamp & Traceability Forum™.
- Tax stamp and secure track and trace tender alert notifications, for both the excise goods industry and other industries such as food and pharma.

And lastly, membership of ITSA signifies that you are committed to meeting the rigorous requirements of the Association's Code of Conduct, thereby assuring your customers, suppliers and partners of ethical business practices and quality products.

HOW TO JOIN US

2026

ITSA offers two types of membership:

- **Full membership** – open to legally incorporated businesses that are suppliers of:
 - Components and features of tax stamps
 - Finished tax stamps
 - Equipment for the design, manufacture, application and authentication of tax stamps, or
 - Systems for coding and marking tax stamps

All new members must have a legitimate and established interest and business in tax stamps, and must provide evidence of this interest when submitting their application. All members must also agree to abide by the Code of Conduct.

- **Associate membership** – open to government authorities with an interest in tax stamps and associated tax management and track and trace systems. Such authorities include revenue and customs, procurement, regulatory, and enforcement agencies. Associate membership is not open to suppliers of tax stamps or associated components and systems.

MEMBER RATES

- **Full membership** – £5,500 per annum
- **Associate membership** – free of charge

The benefits are the same for both categories, with the exception that associate members do not have voting rights and cannot hold a seat on the ITSA Board.

If you wish to apply for membership, kindly complete an ITSA member application form, available from our website.