New ET1 and ET3 forms and process

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New ET1 (claim) and ET3 (response) forms have been launched, as well as a video produced by HMCTS to assist users to register for the new <u>MyHMCTS</u> portal and upload an ET3 using that portal. MyHMCTS is designed to be an online platform that will enable parties to manage their cases digitally, such as by the electronic uploading of documents rather than email, cloud systems or post.

The new ET1 and ET3 forms do not make major changes. Reflecting modern society, they add 'other' as an alternative title rather than simply Mr, Mrs etc and add an option of 'prefer not to say' for the Claimant's sex. Reflecting the modern society of 15 or so years ago, 'fax' has been removed as a contact option.

The most material change is that 'whistleblowing' has been added as a type of claim for Claimants to tick, which hopefully will remove some of the ambiguity aired at preliminary hearings about whether such claims were made. Interestingly, 'whistleblowing' is not a term from statute but clearly such language is more user friendly than 'protected interest disclosure'.

Finally, and helpfully, the ET3 now has a question asking what type of company the employer is.

Any one further interested in what is a 'fax' may wish to consider Fax - Wikipedia.

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