



Brexit preparations that can be made today

At present, the UK is set to leave the EU customs union on the 1st of January 2021. Therefore, it is important that we plan and prepare for the, still uncertain, scenario to come.

What follows are a few steps and measures you can take to avoid delays at the border

1. Make sure you have a valid EORI number

You need an EORI number when doing business outside of the EU customs union.

In Belgium, this number is linked to your VAT number, but it must be proactively activated.

To check whether your company has a valid EORI number, please use the following link and enter your VAT number.

(this won't work for companies that don't have a Belgian VAT number as not all countries link the EORI numbers to VAT numbers)

https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/dds2/eos/eori_validation.jsp

Don't have a valid EORI number? Apply for one for free via

https://financien.belgium.be/sites/default/files/Helpdesk_PLDA/EORI/2017-02-15-EORI-Formulier-A2-nl.docx

Dutch version

https://finances.belgium.be/sites/default/files/Helpdesk_PLDA/EORI/2017-02-15-EORI-Formulaire-A2-fr.docx

French version

2. Apply for a deferred VAT agreement

Make sure that for shipments coming into Belgium you don't have to pay the VAT before we can deliver the goods.

You can apply and learn more about this agreement through the following [link](#).

3. Every shipment must be accompanied by a commercial invoice and PL

The invoice(s) and packing list(s) need to show the following details:

- Shipper (Name, full address, EORI n°)
- Consignee (Name, full address, EORI n°, TSP n° - TSP if UK importer is registered)
- Goods (N° of packages, descriptions of goods, n° of pieces,)
- Commodity code / HS code (amount of pieces and packages + values for each code)
- Incoterm (to be shown clearly on the invoice)
- Customs procedures (any specific requirements or details must be advised beforehand)
 - E.g. Temporary import/export, carnet, return of goods, ...

4. Talk to your clients/suppliers in the UK to see if they have applied for a TSP N°

The UK has started the Transitional Simplified Procedure (TSP) to prepare for a hard Brexit. Its purpose is to accelerate the border crossing of goods coming into the country for registered traders in the UK.

Under this procedure, importers won't have to make a full customs declaration upon arrival of goods in the UK and they will be given a 6 month period after Brexit to submit full declarations.

5. Review the incoterm under which you wish to ship

It is important to know what your duties and liabilities are when shipping under certain incoterms now that customs declarations will have to be done and duties paid.

It takes worth noting that the EU strongly advises **not** to use the incoterms DDP or EXW anymore. For more information on the incoterms please follow the following link or contact our customs department.

<https://www.nafora.be/sites/default/files/news/Incoterms%202020.pdf>

It remains unsure on how to fully prepare for the upcoming Brexit.
But every measure that can be taken shouldn't be ignored.

This mailing just holds a very brief description of actions that can be taken beforehand.

If you wish to receive more information, feel free to contact our customs department,
or your commercial representative.



Click above to contact our customs department



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