

Preparing for Brexit

A guide produced by NNR Global Logistics UK Limited



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HM Revenue and Customs recently published a paper to advise Traders on how to prepare for a 'No Deal Brexit'. Whilst the picture remains distinctly unclear, NNR would like to make the following recommendations on what to have in place prior to March 29th 2019.

October 2018 was originally the deadline set by the EU for the agreement of the withdrawal, allowing enough time for the formal agreement to be in place. That date of course, has passed with no conclusion therefore all need to prepare well and be agile. If an agreement between the UK and the EU is not in place, which seems likely, trade would come under the governance of the World Trade Organisation (WTO). The result will be that HM Revenue and Customs checks and tariffs will be imposed. We recommend the following preparation:

EORI

Do you have a UK EORI?

If you do not have an active UK EORI number (Economic Operator Registration and Identification) then this will be needed for Customs Clearance in the UK. It is free to apply for and currently takes around 72 hours to come through, though the processing time may increase as the Brexit deadline approaches and HMR&C receive many more applications.

You can apply at: www.gov.uk/eori

Classifications

Make sure you have Commodity Codes for all products you send in or out of the UK. It is the responsibility of the Trader to provide the correct Commodity Codes to complete both Import and Export declarations. Having the correct Commodity Code in place will mean the correct Duty rates will be applied, keeping you compliant with HMR&C.

You can check at: www.gov.uk/trade-tariff

Export & Import Licencing

You will need to check if you need a licence to import or export your products. You may need to apply for a licence or provide supporting documents to import or export specific types of goods, depending on the relevant or reciprocal Customs procedures. Check if your products are restricted goods. You will usually need a licence for:

- Military and paramilitary goods
- Dual-use and technology
- Certain artworks
- Plants and animals
- Medicines and chemicals

Paperwork requirements

Paperwork will be required for all shipments Import and Export, so make sure you prepare full documentation for every shipment; consisting of a Commercial Invoice and Packing List, detailing the nature of the goods and values. Documentation should show the following:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ▪ Exporter name & address | ▪ Importer name & address |
| ▪ Description of Goods | ▪ Country of Origin |
| ▪ Quantity and Packaging type | ▪ Gross and Nett Weight |
| ▪ Commercial Value & Currency | ▪ Commodity Codes |
| ▪ Incoterms | ▪ EORI Number |

ACT NOW!

- ✓ Make sure that those responsible for shipping are ready to provide the commercial documentation required for all movements, highlighted on the above check list, for both Import and Export.
- ✓ If you do not have an active EORI, you will need one in place to continue to import and export goods after March 29th. Beware: The processing time may increase as the Brexit deadline approaches.
- ✓ Check now and establish the commodity codes for all of your products. Make sure you have the correct Incoterms in place for your transactions as this will deem who is responsible for the Duty and Taxes on arrival. Having the correct Commodity Codes in place will make you compliant with HMR&C and make sure you are not evading import Duty or Tax.

We are here for you

If you require any assistance or further guidance on the topic of Brexit, please do not hesitate to contact us at your earliest convenience.

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In safe hands

- ✓ AEO full approval
- ✓ ISO 9001 Quality system
- ✓ AS 9120 Quality enhancement
- ✓ CAA approved Regulated Agent
- ✓ Customs consultancy specialists
- ✓ Direct system links with HMRC
- ✓ FMCG logistics warehousing
- ✓ Global NNR network

