SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY CONTROLS

GOODS IMPORTED FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM INTO THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ENTERING THE EU VIA FRANCE

30 November 2020
The United Kingdom left the European Union on 1 February 2020. On completion of a period of transition, irrespective of the outcome of the current negotiations, sanitary and phytosanitary controls will be implemented for goods imported from the United Kingdom into the European Union.

This means that starting on 1 January 2021, the following steps will need to be organised:

1- Informing UK exporters of the new provisions
2- Verification to determine whether goods are subject to sanitary and phytosanitary controls
3- Verification that the proposed point of entry is in fact designated for the goods concerned
4- Obtaining a (phyto)sanitary certificate signed by the competent UK authority
5- Initiating the sanitary formalities in TRACES and customs procedures in DELTA-G or DELTA-T, indicating the reference of the Common Health Entry Document (DSCE/CHED TRACES)
6- Verification at the time of boarding in the United Kingdom that the goods are accompanied by all necessary documents.
7- Taking note of the information provided during the crossing on goods orientation on disembarkation in France
8- Presentation of the goods for sanitary and phytosanitary controls
9- On completion of the checks, finalisation of the customs formalities and payment of the fee.
Contact the UK exporter to provide the information in this document before any goods are despatched.

This will avoid the goods being rejected/destroyed due to major non-compliance not open to regularisation:

- Introduction of prohibited goods;
- Introduction at an entry point not designated for the goods concerned;
- Lack of, or an inappropriate (phyto)sanitary certificate signed by the UK authorities accompanying the goods;
- Unsatisfactory consignment hygiene conditions.
ARE THE GOODS SUBJECT TO SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY CONTROLS?

Such controls apply to live animals, products of animal origin, animal feed, and plants.

Examples of prohibited products:

- Seed potatoes,
- citrus plants and vines

IS THE ENTITY AUTHORISED TO EXPORT ANIMAL PRODUCTS TO THE EUROPEAN UNION?

See list(2)
3 CHOOSEING A POINT OF ENTRY INTO FRANCE

Check that the proposed point of entry is in fact designated for the goods concerned (not all entry points are designated for all categories of goods).

All these “Brexit” entry points are designated for controls on animal products, animal feed and plants. Boulogne-Sur-Mer is a special case since it is designated exclusively for fisheries products and bivalve molluscs.
Only the points of entry listed below are designated for live animals, with limitations relating to the following categories:

2a - Calais Tunnel: equidae (limited opening times: 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.)
2b - Calais Port: equidae, domestic carnivores, day-old poultry (limited opening times: 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.)
3 - Dieppe: equidae, domestic carnivores
5 - Caen-Ouistreham: equidae and other animals except ungulates
6 - Cherbourg: equidae, domestic carnivores, pigeons, fish, lagomorphs
7 - Saint Malo: equidae and other animals except ungulates

Please note that no French port is designated for reception of cattle, sheep, goats or pigs
Obtaining a (phyto)sanitary certificate signed by the competent UK authority (official veterinarian, etc.) containing:

- Information on the goods;
- The entries required by EU regulations;
- Where applicable, the number of the security seal placed on the consignment.

Certain products of the sea must be accompanied by a catch certificate. For more information (4)

This document must accompany the goods up to the French border post where the sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) checks are to be carried out.
For this and subsequent operations, it is possible to use the services of an intermediary: a person responsible for the consignment, a registered customs representative (French: “RDE”). Forward planning of these procedures will ensure a smoother border crossing.

Prenotify the data on the goods in the European TRACES system to obtain a TRACES Common Health Entry Document (DSCE/CHED) and attach a scanned copy of the UK (phyto)sanitary certificate to the prenotification.

Be in possession of TRACES access (S) and registration as an operator in TRACES for the relevant point of entry.

Entry of the advance import declaration for the goods in the DELTA-G customs system or the transit declaration in the dedicated DELTA-T system, stating the associated DSCE/CHED TRACES number.
Check that all commercial documentation and the UK (phyto)sanitary certificate are with the goods and that the associated DSCE/CHED TRACES number has been entered in the customs declaration (import or transit).

If applicable, check that the security seal on the consignment does in fact match the seal entered on the (phyto)sanitary certificate.

On boarding, indicate to the ferry company (maritime companies and the Tunnel) that the products are subject to SPS controls. This information is entered by ferry companies in the smart border system (Brexit IS).

Important: on boarding at Dover or Folkestone for Calais, in the case of consignments containing fishery products exclusively, indicate “fishery products”. The checks will be carried out at Boulogne-Sur-Mer. Mixed consignments will be checked first at Calais followed by Boulogne-Sur-Mer.
ON ARRIVAL IN FRENCH TERRITORY, GET IN THE LANE INDICATED FOR THE VEHICLE LICENCE PLATE:

This will be the orange lane if the CHED has not yet been issued by the veterinary and phytosanitary inspection service (SIVEP) (identity and/or physical checks to be carried out);

Or the green lane if the CHED has already been issued (on the basis of a document check alone).

For consignments containing only fishery products and arriving at Calais Port or Tunnel accompanied by a transit declaration (T1) for Boulogne-Sur-Mer, get in the green lane and go to the Boulogne-Sur-Mer border inspection post.

Fishery products must travel to Boulogne-Sur-Mer under a transit declaration: this is either a type T1 declaration issued in the United Kingdom under the Common Transit Agreement or a type T1 Union declaration, departing from Calais, filed up to 72 hours in advance of presentation of the goods.

In both these cases, lorries will be directed to the green lane, unlike other SPS goods.
When only a document check is required, the CHED can be issued without going through the border inspection post if the formalities have been carried out ahead of time.

Where identity and/or physical checks are required, the goods must be presented at the border inspection post.

The commercial documents and the original of the (phyto)sanitary certificate from the UK authorities are to be handed over to the inspector;

The driver will be told to park the trailer in the inspection bay and open it when requested by the inspector.

The load must be presented for inspection when requested by the inspector.
> IF NON-COMPLIANCE IS DETECTED: THE GOODS WILL BE DETAINED.

> GOODS WILL BE REJECTED OR DESTROYED WHERE THERE IS MAJOR NON-COMPLIANCE NOT OPEN TO REGULARISATION – FOR EXAMPLE:

- Introduction of prohibited goods;
- Introduction via a point of entry not designated for the goods;
- The goods accompanied by no, or an incorrect (phyto)sanitary certificate signed by the UK authorities;
- Unsatisfactory consignment hygiene conditions.
If the outcome is satisfactory: issuance of a Common Health Entry Document (CHED) which must accompany the goods.

Finalisation of customs formalities:
1) For import declarations: validation of the advance import declaration in DELTA-G (referencing the CHED issued) to obtain the release warrant (French: “BAE”);
2) Where goods are in transit (except fishery products): for goods in transit in the EU under the DTI (Direct Trade Interface), validation of the transit declaration in DELTA-T (referencing the CHED issued) to obtain the release warrant (French: “BAE”); where goods are in common transit and transit in the EU under EDI (Electronic Data Interchange), an electronic message is sent to customs notifying that the CHED has been obtained and the number of the relevant transit declaration (MRN) in order to obtain the transit advice note;
3) For fishery products in transit (going through Calais and checked at Boulogne-Sur-Mer): communication to customs of notification of arrival at the Boulogne-Sur-Mer customs office (FR000630).

Organise the customs procedures in advance in order to be in a position to pay the sanitary or phytosanitary import fee.

Payment of the sanitary or phytosanitary import fee.
INDEX OF INTERNET LINKS INCLUDED IN THIS DOCUMENT:

(1) https://agriculture.gouv.fr/suis-je-concerne-par-les-controles-sps-aux-frontieres
(2) https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/sanco/traces/output/non_eu_listsPerActivity_fr.htm
(3) https://agriculture.gouv.fr/ou-sont-effectues-les-controles-sps-aux-frontieres
(4) https://agriculture.gouv.fr/brexit