



## AS OF 30TH MARCH ANTICIPATE YOUR CUSTOMS DECLARATIONS FOR A HASSLE-FREE CROSSING



Given that a hard border will soon separate the United Kingdom from the European Union, French Customs has developed an IT system that will automate border controls for trucks passing through the ports of Calais, Dunkirk and the Channel Tunnel.

### What do you need customs declarations for



- **Import declaration:** import customs formalities allow for tariffs and duty to be paid, and ensures the application of trade rules and regulations (restrictions e.g. norms, or prohibitions e.g. weapons).



- **Export declaration:** in this case, customs formalities ensure that the goods have exited the country of origin, allows the exporter to justify VAT exemptions, verifies the authorisation for restricted goods (e.g. works of art, weapons, etc.)



Crossing the border without the necessary customs declarations means that the person responsible for the goods will have to pay VAT both in France and in the UK, in addition to a customs penalty issued at the border.



**In order to benefit from the automated border crossing as of the 30th March**, you must **prepare your customs declarations before** checking-in your goods at the ports of Calais, Dunkirk or at the Channel Tunnel. The bar-code provided by the anticipated customs declaration will allow you to cross the border hassle-free.



Make sure that the person responsible for the goods has anticipated this new process and that the driver has the barcode ready before checking-in the goods at the border.

### How to anticipate customs formalities



The company can choose to make declarations itself or else do it through a third party such as a customs broker, freight forwarder or logistics provider, as pre-defined in the international commercial terms (Incoterms).

You'll need an **EORI** (Economic Operator Registration and Identification) number before being able to make a customs declaration and continue importing or exporting goods.



French customs declarations can be made via the online platform DELTA: DELTA-G is for general freight, DELTA-X for express freight. The platform is open 24/7 and allows you to submit your declaration up to 30 days before transporting the goods to the border.

The British authorities have also set up two online services for customs declarations: CDS or CHIEF, allowing you to declare your goods with British customs.



For more information, go to:  
[www.brexit.gouv.fr](http://www.brexit.gouv.fr)  
[www.gov.uk/government/brexit](http://www.gov.uk/government/brexit)