



Mandatory freight information for crossing the customs border from and to Great Britain

Important information for bookings to and from the UK

Customs declarations for exports and imports to and from Great Britain are now a mandatory requirement. On this page we will guide you through all the information that you need to provide. This information is crucial to ensure that your shipments are not delayed or queried.

The most important documents to allow us to process your customs declaration is our Mandatory Customer Information (MCI) form, your Commercial Invoice (CI) and the accompanying Packing List (PL) (if available).

The following elements are mandatory and must be provided either per document or per article line as detailed. The mandatory information is ideally contained in the commercial invoice but can also appear on the packing list if appropriate.

Once per Commercial Document (CI or PL)

Name and Address of Exporter and Importer of Record	Invoice Date and Invoice Number	Incoterm
Number and Type of Packaging (eg Pallet/Box) ¹	Total Weight ²	Total Price and Currency of the Invoice

- 1 The number, type of packaging and weight of the consignment in the booking must match with data in CI or PL.
- 2 Customs processes with CH, TR, RU require net weight per article line.

Once per article line mentioned on CI or PL

HS Code per article line ³	Detailed description of the goods (mandatory); Article Number (if available)	Country of Origin per article line ⁴
Pieces / Items per article line	Price per article line	

- 3 If the same HS code (Harmonized System code) applies to all articles, a corresponding statement with indication of the HS code on the Commercial Invoice (CI) is sufficient.
- 4 If all articles are from the same Country of Origin, a corresponding statement with indication of the Country of Origin on the CI is sufficient. Please check comment box below for additional Country of Origin information.

In addition we need the following information on the Mandatory Customer Information form (MCI):

Required on Mandatory Customer Information Form (MCI)

Name, eMail and phone numbers of contact persons of Exporter & Importer ⁵	EORI/VAT numbers of Exporter and Importer ⁶	Third party contact data (if applicable)
--	--	--

- 5 Importer = Sold-to-party
- 6 If not VAT registered (e.g. private importer) please advise on the MCI form. EORI number is mandatory for all EU countries and GB, for all other countries equivalent information is required.

Additional information

Country of Origin (CoO)

"Rules of origin determine where goods originate, i.e. not where they have been shipped from, but where they have been produced or manufactured. As such, the 'origin' is the 'economic nationality' of goods traded in commerce." Duty rates, trade sanctions and import quotas are regulated according to Country of Origin. Because of the revenue and admissibility issues involved, customs authorities are vigilant about verifying accurate country of origin.

For the field Country of Origin = Country of Manufacturing e.g. 'France' or 'FR' are valid entries. Please be aware that "made in" FR or "Origin EU" are no valid entries and are therefore not accepted. If there are different CoO per article line, then the CoO must be indicated per article line. There needs to be an explicit area on the commercial documents clearly stating "Country of Origin" in the required format.

Quote from Rules of Origin | Taxation and Customs Union (europa.eu)

Statement on Preferential Origin

"For customs matters, there is a distinction between two types of origins, notably non-preferential origin and preferential origin. [...] Preferential rules of origin determine whether goods qualify as originating from certain countries, for which special arrangements and agreements apply. Where all the requirements are met, goods with preferential origin are eligible to be imported with lower duty rates or at zero rate, depending on the preferential tariff treatment provided for."

A statement on Preferential Origin allows for claiming a preferential rate of duty on the arrival abroad. The entry 'EU' is valid here, because duty calculation is based on the agreement between EU and UK, not a specific country in the EU.

Statements on Preferential Origin do NOT cover the "Country of Origin" requirement and cannot implicitly be used for declaration of the Country of Origin. A preferential statement on origin is an additional item on top of the mandatory explicit declaration of the 'Country of Origin'.

Quote from Rules of Origin | Taxation and Customs Union (europa.eu)