

UK Government to introduce Import Controls from 1 January 2022

Import controls that might have been imposed on 1 January 2021 coinciding with the start of trading under the EU-UK TCA will now be introduced from 1 January 2022. New controls on safety and security declarations will be required from 1 July 2022.

Exports to the EU from Britain have been subject to controls since 1 January 2020, but the government decided to opt for a phased approach on EU imports to give hauliers and business time to adapt. Covid 19 recovery measures were also cited by the UK Government when further delaying import controls.

The revised timetable will take effect as follows:

What changes will take effect on 1 January 2022

- full customs declarations and controls; and
- pre-notification of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) goods (extended from 1 October 2021).

Changes to take effect on 1 July 2022

- the new requirements for Export Health Certificates (extended from 1 October 2021);
- Phytosanitary Certificates and physical checks on SPS goods at Border Control Posts (extended from 1 January 2022); and
- safety and Security declarations on imports (extended from 1 January 2022).

The timeframe for new rules on product labelling has not changed as that already allowed producers to continue to use an EU, GB or NI address for products sold in GB until 30 September 2022.

The Chemical Industries Association and Chemicals Northwest are not pushing for a further delay to controls being introduced. Members believe the current delay exacerbates the uneven playing field between EU versus GB producers. In short, the delay creates one way traffic whereby GB producers exporting into the EU are subject to rigorous regulatory requirements whereas EU exporters into GB can benefit from the less restrictive regulatory procedures.

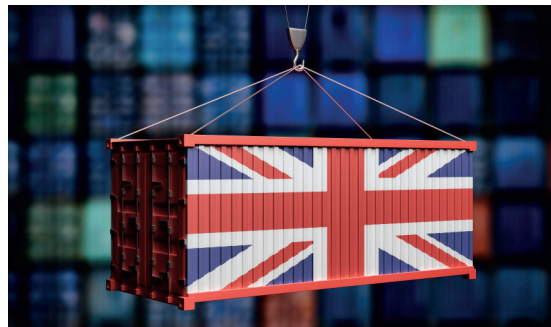
Made in the UK, Sold to the World

The Government has launched a new export strategy to help businesses across the UK double exports and sell their products around the globe.

The Department for International Trade promise to give businesses the tools needed to become a nation of exporters

and reap the benefits of the free trade deals they are busily negotiating.

The new *Export Support Service* offers a one-stop shop for exporting advice, and the launch of a new UK Tradeshow Programme tailored to help businesses, particularly those outside London and the South East, to attend and promote their products around the world. Chemicals Northwest was aware that the replaced TAP programme was not popular in parts of Whitehall, but it did provide up to six funded grants for SMEs to participate at international shows. The new scheme provides only a single opportunity for companies to establish their export credentials.



The UK exported £600 billion in goods and services last year but only around one in ten GB businesses currently export with the number of goods exporters falling behind continental competitors like Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. Government commissioned research estimates that exports support 6.5 million jobs across the UK, and that exporters pay higher wages. Separate analysis shows that goods exporting businesses are on average 21 percent more productive.

The Export Strategy - titled 'Made in the UK, Sold to the World' - will see government work hand-in-hand with business to help them to succeed in the global marketplace through a first-class export support framework.

The 12-point strategy includes:

- Launching the 'Made in the UK, Sold to the World' campaign.
- The Export Support Service provides a single point of contact for exporters to Europe.
- UK Export Academy expansion to offer SMEs in all parts of the UK the chance to learn how to navigate the technicalities of exporting and how to find new opportunities in overseas markets.
- A new UK Tradeshow Programme will give UK companies, especially SMEs, assistance to exhibit their first-class products at the world's biggest tradeshows.
- UK Export Finance will expand its offer with new products and a wider delivery network.
- Export Champions, ensuring businesses can build and learn from exporting successes through business-to-business networking and peer-to-peer learning.
- Internationalisation Fund, open to SMEs in England, will aim to grow international sales, and has facilitated £4 million of support to SMEs attending Trade Fairs.

Ian Cranshaw
cranshawi@cia.org.uk