

Five essential steps: **EXPORTING** to the **EU**

1. Get an EORI number

- A UK issued **Economic Operator Registration and Identification** (EORI) number is essential for businesses that wish to import or export goods with the EU post-Brexit. If you interact with EU customs, you also need an **EU EORI number** from the country where you first lodge a declaration.
- **Apply for an EORI number** online and you will receive it straight away. If you already have one, check it begins with GB. If not, HMRC will soon publish guidance on how to switch.

2. Check your commodity/tariff codes

- **Commodity codes** are used to ensure goods have the correct tariff classification. Using the wrong codes for your products in customs declarations risks paying the wrong tariff, costly delays at the border or even goods being blocked entry into the EU.
- **Search** for your commodity code. **HMRC can advise** if further help is needed.

3. Know what certificates your products need

- To ensure your product can enter the EU, it will need to be able to pass EU regulatory checks for third country goods. Products of animal origin will be subject to **additional requirements**.
- Products of animal origin will need an **Export Health Certificate** and must enter the EU via a **Border Inspection Post** (BIP). Most fish products will need a **catch certificate**.

4. Check your product labelling

- Exported products must be **labelled correctly** to reflect the UK's third country status. UK products can no longer use 'EU' in country of origin labelling while products marketed as **organic** may face EU export restrictions until the UK becomes an approved third country.
- An EU importer/Food Business Operator address will be required on product labels and products of animal origin must include the **new UK health and ID mark**.

5. Decide if you will use a customs agent

- Most businesses use a customs broker, agent, or freight forwarder to make **customs declarations** for them. This can make exporting simpler and faster. Alternatively, you can make **declarations** yourself by obtaining **approved software**.
- You may want to check with the EU importers if they are ready to submit an import declaration when the goods arrive in the EU.