



HOW TO IMPORT MEAT AND POULTRY





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Firstly we need to ascertain if your product is low risk or medium risk.

Low risk products generally are shelf stable, for example: spam, jerky and corned beef.

Medium risk products generally need to be chilled or frozen, for example: Mincemeat, chicken, sausages, steak and bacon.

[You can find a full list of products and their risk categorisations here](#)

A pre-notification in IPAFFS 24 hours before arrival is required, for low and medium risk products. IPAFFS is the UK GOV's Import of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System. [Click here to register your company on IPAFFS.](#)

IMPORT CLEARANCE

You will need to clear your goods into the UK and pay any outstanding duty and VAT, so your goods can enter free circulation in the UK. In order for us to complete a customs clearance, you will need an EORI number. [You can sign up for an EORI number here.](#)

There are a couple of different ways to pay duty and VAT on your import:

- Payment upfront.
- Post vat accounting (PVA), allows for you to account for the VAT on your VAT return. Saving you from paying it upon import.
- Deferment account (DAN), lets you make a one off payment per month through Direct Debit, on all you imports instead of paying for each import.

We can calculate the Duty and VAT before your import arrives, so you don't get any nasty shocks!





IMPORT PROCESS

Documentation Requirements

- Commercial invoice
- Packing list
- Export health certificate (Medium risk products only)



At the packing warehouse, the export health certificate, commercial invoice and packing list gets created. You then inform your haulier your goods are ready to be shipped, and we complete the IPAFFS pre-notification.



While the goods are being collected, the export agent completes the export clearance. The import agent completes the safety and security declaration and preps the import clearance.



During transit the duty and VAT gets paid, and the import clearance gets approved. Port Health check the pre-notification, and makes decision on whether to inspect the goods or not.



Once the goods have arrived in the UK and has passed all the checks, your goods are in free circulation and your goods can be delivered.

Inspection Frequency

Low Risk: Officially there is a 0% check rate on low risk products. But Port Health do have the power to divert your goods to a border control post (BCP).

Medium Risk: 100% document, 30% ID and 30% physical.





Safety and Security Declarations

Safety and Security declaration (S&S) is also known as an Entry Summary declaration (ENS). Its purpose is to inform border authorities, so they can analyse the potential risk caused to the UK territory by goods crossing the border. [Check out our S&S FAQ here.](#)

Accredited Trusted Trader Schemes (ATTS)

There is a Accredited Trusted Trade Schemes currently being piloted.

They are looking at allowing checks away from the border control posts (BCP). This is where you set up your warehouse and train your staff to be able to complete any physical checks there, instead of at the BCP.

They are also looking at a certification logistics pilot. This would allow for the export health certificate to be used from the point of origin, without the need to go to a consolidation hub to have the export health certificate approved.

For more information on the ATTS please email:
ATTS-TrustedTrader@defra.gov.uk.

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland qualifying goods have no SPS checks. So, there is no requirement for a phytosanitary certificate. But a pre-notification in IPAFFS will be required.

T1 Cargo

If your goods have not been cleared into the EU, and have travelled through the EU on a T1, you have a different set of regulations to follow. Please contact us directly to discuss arrangements.





ABOUT US

As a family run company, we have core principles at the heart of everything we do. Our reputation has been built on exceptional Customer Service which is underlined by our Customer in Focus attitude. We are committed to offering our customers the products, solutions and services they need at the best possible price. We are passionate about what we do, innovative and forward thinking in the design of the products and services we offer. We respect commitments and comply with our social responsibilities which are reflected in our company Culture, Values and CSR statements.

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