

# International Trade Centre Newsletter



March 2024

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## 100% Customs Compliance Score

**Chamber's experienced customs declaration team delighted to receive a 100% compliance score during latest customs audit.**

At the Hull and Humber Chamber, we are able to provide our Chamber Members and other local businesses with import and export customs clearance services for all UK sea, rail and road terminals. Our service is offered direct to businesses and through UK freight forwarders, ensuring customs clearance is accurate, timely and avoids additional costs through delays or errors.

We have a very knowledgeable team at the Chamber, who undergo regular training and assessments, keeping on top of all UK border changes and import and export customs clearance updates. As part of the ChamberCustoms network, we are regularly audited to ensure we, and thus our clients, remain fully HMRC compliant. We were delighted for our hard work and exemplary customer service to be recognised during our most recent audit when we were rated 100% compliant. [Read more here](#)

## Reminder – 30<sup>th</sup> March 2024 is the last day for making export declarations on CHIEF

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HMRC has confirmed that the last day for making export declarations on CHIEF will be 30<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and that all businesses should declare goods through the CDS from this date. Given that there are some distinct differences between making declarations through the CDS compared to CHIEF, HMRC has provided guidance which will assist traders in making the change. [Click here for full details and HMRC guidance.](#)

## Important information about changes to the Customs Declaration Service (CDS) for goods moving into Northern Ireland

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From 24 March 2024, there will be changes that will affect how you make declarations into Northern Ireland through the Customs Declaration Service (CDS). These changes will apply to goods moving into Northern Ireland from Great Britain (GB-NI) and to goods moving into Northern Ireland from a country outside of both the UK and the EU (Rest of World -NI).

From 24 March 2024, if the 'NIREM' code is used without declaring a valid UK Internal Market Scheme (UKIMS) authorisation, duties at the EU rate will be calculated and charged by the CDS if duties are due. To use a UKIMS authorisation, there is a requirement to start using some new codes and a UKIMS authorisation number.

[Click here to see the details of these changes and to read the explanations](#)

## Scale Of Red Sea Disruption Revealed

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New research has uncovered the scale of the impact on UK businesses caused by the disruption to shipping in the Red Sea.

Almost two fifths (37%) of more than 1,000 firms surveyed overall for the research said they had been impacted - with exporters, manufacturers and B2C businesses (which include retailers and wholesalers) far more likely to report an impact.

The issues cited by firms included increased costs, with some reporting rises of 300% for container hire, and logistical delays, adding up to three to four weeks to delivery times. Firms also said this was creating knock-on effects such as cashflow difficulties and component shortages on production lines.

[Read more here](#)

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## Proof of Union Status - HMRC Guidance

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From 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024, there will be a new European system to store, manage and retrieve 'Proof of Union Status' (PoUS). This will replace the T2L certificate and suppliers' declarations with a digital way of proving the customs status of Union goods.

Union goods are those produced in the customs territory of the EU, or imported goods that are in free circulation, i.e. have had all import duties and taxes paid.

Union goods are not subject to EU customs processes. All goods within the customs territory of the Union that are not under customs control are presumed to be Union goods. Goods produced or are in free circulation in Northern Ireland can also benefit from these arrangements.

If goods are transported between EU countries and Northern Ireland by a route that deviates outside the customs territory of the EU, including goods moving through Great Britain, the customs status of the Union goods must be proved when the goods return to the customs territory of the EU. This is called 'Proof of Union Status' (PoUS).

[Further details here](#)

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## DEFRA- Common Errors Found

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Several common errors have been identified through the documentary checks undertaken since 31<sup>st</sup> January. DEFRA have summarised these and set out the official guidance related to these common errors to improve understanding and minimise errors being made in the future.

### Actions traders need to be taking now

From 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 traders must:

- Continue to provide an Export Health Certificate (EHC) for live animal and germinal product imports. Obtain an Export Health Certificate (EHC) for medium risk animal products, and some high-risk food and feed not of animal origin (HRFNAO).
- Obtain a Phytosanitary Certificate (PCs) for medium risk plants and plant products.
- Continue to provide a Phytosanitary Certificate (PCs) for high-risk plants and plant products.

Defra are running **information sessions for businesses** throughout March and April-to join an event click [here](#)

[Click here for a summary of the errors found and for details of legal responsibilities guidance](#)

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## Power of Attorney for use in UAE NEW REQUIREMENT

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The Embassy of the UAE has a new requirement for the attestation of a power of attorney. A signed company headed letter from the signatory is required to be submitted along with the power of attorney as a supporting document. This letter needs to confirm the following:

- Signatory's email address
- Signatory's phone number

## Group for International Traders

### Coming soon!

Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce LinkedIn Group for Chamber Member International Traders. This private group will give HHCC member importers and exporters the opportunity to:

- connect with other professionals in your industry
- get the latest international news updates
- hear about international trade opportunities
- get insights into what others in your industry are discussing
- share advice
- ask questions

If you are interested in joining or would like to find out more, please [click here](#).

## Monthly Focus

### Why You MUST Return Your ATA Carnet

ATA Carnets must be returned to the Chamber at the latest on its \*12-month expiry date to establish if there will be any potential liability to you as the holder.

We strongly recommend returning your carnet to us via registered post or in person to ensure it doesn't get lost en route to the Chamber. Keep scanned copies of any Counterfoils endorsed by Customs on your file.

Having checked the Carnet, the Chamber will decide on whether to discharge (close) the file or to take remedial action to mitigate exposure to foreign Customs.

\*For holders who have taken out our in-house Aviva insurance guarantee you must return your carnet to us once the time limit you opted for on your application has expired; this would have been either 2 months, 6 months or 12 months. For carnets taken out for the 2- and 6-months options if you need to extend this time limit, we can arrange (additional charges will apply)

#### What we will be checking for

- There are no vouchers missing from the carnet – if the carnet was issued for multiple visits and you have only taken one trip only, then the vouchers numbered two onwards should still remain in the carnet.
- No additions or alterations have been made to the General List (and that the master list

on the reverse of the Green Front Cover has not been removed)

- The Carnet has only been used in countries that the Holder applied for
- All items have been re-exported out of country of temporary importation (import and / or transit) within the time limit for re-exportation and returned to the UK within the validity of the Carnet. Carnets used after expiry cannot be discharged as the holder may be liable to pay duties and / or penalties (in the event of claim) due to late re-exportation.
- All items declared for transit have been stamped in and out, within the time limit. Note that Russia and Switzerland usually endorse Both Transit Counterfoils, other countries only the 1st set.

#### **What to do if your carnet has not been used correctly**

Foreign Customs have 33 months from the date of issue to raise a dispute on your carnet. Only Customs endorsed evidence is admissible when answering claims from foreign customs on your behalf. Note that some customs authorities may charge a penalty for having to raise the claim for example if you have not had your re-exportation counterfoil endorsed.

If your carnet has not been used correctly you must contact the National Carnet Unit and request a Certificate of Location. Their contact details are as follows:

**Email: [atacarnetunit@hmrc.gov.uk](mailto:atacarnetunit@hmrc.gov.uk)**

**Telephone: +44(0)30 0322 7064**

If your goods came back via seaport or Roro port, contact the Border Force at that customs office and ask if they would be prepared to endorse the Carnet retrospectively (you will have to bring the Carnet goods with you for inspection if your request is granted by the Border Force). Retrospective Carnet endorsement is usually not possible at airports as Border Force can usually only be reached within the arrival's hall.

If you have any questions regarding your carnet, please check our website or contact our expert team at 01482 324976 or email [exportdocshelpdesk@hull-humber-chamber.co.uk](mailto:exportdocshelpdesk@hull-humber-chamber.co.uk)

## Business Support, Events & Opportunities

### **Export Growth Grant Funding Programme - applications are still welcome**

Funded via Hull City Council through UK Shared Prosperity Funds, 13 grants have already been allocated to Hull-based companies to support them exhibiting at an international trade show. For the period April 2024 onwards, there are several more grants available (match-funded up to max £5,400).

HULL City Council would like to announce the successful awarding to the Hull and East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (HEY LEP) of UK Shared Prosperity Funds (UKSPF) to support local Hull based businesses with its **Export Growth Grant (EGG)** Funding Programme. The Programme aims to provide revenue grants to Hull-based exporters to support business growth through

exporting to new markets.

Grants to a **maximum** of £5,400 are available to SMEs trading in a Hull Postcode (HU1 – HU9). Companies applying will be expected to evidence the availability of 40% match funds of their overall project cost. The overall objective of the EGG Programme is to assist businesses looking to exhibit at UK, European and International Trade Shows, to engage with new markets and grow products and/or service exports.

For further details or to apply  
for a grant click [here](#)

## Digital Grants are now open

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We've got some great news. The East Riding UKSPF Digital Grants are open for applications, and we want you to be a part of it.

This grant aims to boost our communities through technology by:

- Improving community facilities and spaces: Making them more connected digitally.
- Enhancing services: Getting better tech for providing services in our communities.

Your group can apply for grants from £2,000 to £25,000.

Applications close on 20 December 2024, or even earlier if all the funds used up.

### How to Apply:

1. Download a self-assessment form from [ERYC website](#) and submit this to via email to [localgrowth@eastriding.gov.uk](mailto:localgrowth@eastriding.gov.uk)
2. You will then be invited to move to the full application stage with help and support from us.

If you want further information before you apply, email the team at [localgrowth@eastriding.gov.uk](mailto:localgrowth@eastriding.gov.uk)

For more information, including details on what you can spend the money on, how to apply, or to chat to the team visit our webpage by clicking [here](#).

## Chambers Trade Academy: Aid Funded Biz Opps for British companies

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As part of our commitment to support businesses to navigate their international trade journey, we are pleased to be offering a series of free virtual sessions in partnership with a selected group of UK Chambers across the country.

The purpose of these sessions is to provide general insights into exporting, importing and customs, as well as to update traders with the latest changes in regulations and provide tips on

how to grow globally.

**[Aid Funded Business Opportunities for British Companies](#), Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March @ 12pm**

Please click on the webinar link for further details and to book your place(s).  
If you have an area of expertise and would like to be involved with the Chambers Trade Academy and present to our importing and exporting audience, please get in touch with [l.holt@hull-humber-chamber.co.uk](mailto:l.holt@hull-humber-chamber.co.uk)

## International Trade Conference

**Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

We are excited to be incorporating the International Trade Conference into the [Chamber Expo](#) for a second year. Delegates will have the opportunity to engage with import and export specialists, discover new ways to improve your international shipments, and also solve any international trade issues you may have. Further details will be released shortly.

## Horizon Europe Funding

Horizon Europe is the EU's flagship research and innovation programme with a budget of €95.5 billion. UK-based researchers and innovators can apply for most of its funding opportunities.

Horizon Europe funding is available for:

- excellent research in any field
- researcher mobility
- research infrastructure
- global challenges and industrial competitiveness
- innovation

As of April 2023, more than £1 billion had been awarded to UK-based researchers and innovators. [Click here](#) to find out more.

## Foreign exchange and global payments solutions from ChamberFX

Read our weekly briefs and monthly forecasts [here](#) to keep up-to-date on foreign currency markets and trends.

**Member Offer**- if you would like a meeting with our FX experts or a free foreign currency health check please get in touch with Lorraine at [l.holt@hull-humber-chamber.co.uk](mailto:l.holt@hull-humber-chamber.co.uk)

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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***Here for all of your import and export certification and documentation needs: [Certificates of Origin](#) – [EUR1s](#) – [ATA Carnets](#) – [T1s](#) – [Import/Export Declarations](#) – [Customs Audits](#) - [FX - Translation](#) - further details on our [website](#)***