



Information Notice to Trade

Export Health Certification to GB Process from 31st of January 2024

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority has issued this Information Notice in relation to technical requirements for Irish companies trading with Great Britain in an evolving third country regulatory environment.

From 31 January 2024

Requirement for the pre-notification by GB importer of all (low, medium and high risk) imports of fish and fishery products and molluscan shellfish from Ireland to GB. If you're moving goods via GB landbridge to continental EU then pre-notification is to be made by a GB based representative.

Export health certification is required for exports of medium and high risk fish, fishery products and molluscan shellfish from Ireland to GB. Requirement is for transit health certificates for medium and high risk products moving across GB landbridge.

These requirements do not apply to Northern Irish goods which are designated as [Qualifying Northern Irish Goods](#)

To determine which risk categorisation your product falls into please visit the gov.uk website [here](#) for a list where you can search by CN code.

It is important to note that Export Health Certificates (EHCs) can only be provided for export consignments linked to an SFPA approved establishment that can demonstrate an EU approval number.

Application Process for Export Health Certificates for GB

We would advise all operators, particularly if you will be exporting multiple consignments per week, that the best practice approach would be to email your local port office the week prior to dispatching consignments advising at a very minimum how many consignments you are likely to export the following week and on which days you would require certification.

The above best practice suggestion notwithstanding, a Food Business Operator (FBO) who requires health certificates to GB must give reasonable notice (a minimum of 2 working days) to their local SFPA office, as they must for exports to any other third country. In certain cases, for example Just in Time

"The purpose of this document is to provide information upon requirements for export to Great Britain. For the avoidance of doubt, this information does not constitute legal advice or analysis and should not be relied upon as such. Whilst every effort is made to ensure accurate and relevant material is published, no responsibility is accepted by, or on behalf of the SFPA, for any errors, omissions or misleading statements on these pages."

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exports (JIT), certain flexibility may be required with the application timeframe due to these fishery products having short shelf lives and consequently very short shipping times.

As a difference from exports to other third countries, applications for exports to GB, rather than sending a completed Export Health Certificate application form via email to your local port office, will be completed online via TRACES.

You will find a step-by-step guide on how to register for TRACES [here](#).

For more information on TRACES including guidance documents and Training videos please visit the DAFM TRACES webpage [here](#).

We would strongly recommend all exporters watch the training videos at the above link

The first step in the application process is for the exporter is to create Part I of an EHC on TRACES. You will find a user guide on how to complete an export health certificate on TRACES [here](#).

Once Part I is created, the FBO must email their local port office with the reference number of the certificate created as the subject line of the email and with a URL link to the specific certificate itself in the body of the email, as well as details of when the FBO is dispatching the consignment.

Please note, TRACES does not provide automatic notifications of health certificates created, so if you do not email your local port office with the details of your certificate, they will have no way of being aware of your request, and no means to process it.

Once you have submitted this detail, your local port office/SFPO will be in touch regarding validation and signing of the certificate.

Please note, at the request of the UK authorities, Export Health Certificates will be provided by means of a verifiable pdf on TRACES. There will be no paper certificate accompanying the consignment.

Once the export health certificate has been signed and stamped by your local port office, you will be able to download a pdf copy, which you should then forward to your GB importer so that they can complete the IPAFFS pre-notification for the UK authorities. This pre-notification must be completed by your GB importer, or if you're moving goods via GB landbridge pre-notification is to be made by a GB based representative.

Queries regarding this information notice may be addressed to SFPATradeandAudit@sfpai.ie

