AN t-ÚDARÁS UM CHOSAINT IASCAIGH MHARA | SEA-FISHERIES PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Guidance Note on ECS Industry Requirements for trade with the UK

EXPORT CERTIFICATE SYSTEM - Catch Certificate Application

V2.0

BIA MARA SÁBHÁILTE INBHUNAITHE
SAFE SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD

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Document Control

Version History

Version	Author	Approved By	Effective Date	Changes
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V2.0	Donna O'Sullivan	Bernard O'Donovan	09/08/2022	Updated Formatting

Review Record

Version	Review Date	Reviewed By	Review Outcome
V2.0	28/03/2022	Donna O'Sullivan	V2.0 created.
Last Review Date			28/03/2022
Next Review Date			

Foreword

Purpose of this document

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on the Export Certificate System (ECS) used by the applicant/ Industry to acquire Irish Catch Certificates for exports, irrespective of destination.

Audience for this document

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on the Export Certificate System (ECS) used by the applicant/ Industry to acquire Irish Catch Certificates for exports, irrespective of destination.

If you have any Brexit queries that are not addressed by the information in this ECS guidance, please contact us via email: sfpabrexit@sfpa.ie or phone Brexit Office +353 (023) 885 9300.

The purpose of this document is to provide information upon Export Certificate System- Irish Catch Certificates Application This information is purely for guidance and 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.

1. General

1.1. Glossary of Terms

Below is a glossary of terms and acronyms used in this document.

Terms / Acronyms	Description
ECS	Export Certificate System
CN Code	Combined Nomenclature/Product Code

1.2. Relevant Legislation/ Documents

The following legislation is of particular relevance to this Guidance Note:

- EC Regulation 1005/2008
- EC Regulation 1010/2009

1.3. Confidentiality and Data Protection

With regards to information obtained in the performance of their duties, SFPA personnel are subject to confidentiality obligations laid down in section 58 of the Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 and shall have regard to SFPA's Data Protection Policy and to the obligations of SFPA with respect to the processing of personal data as set out in Data Protection Legislation and GDPR.

2. Guidance

2.1. Introduction

The UK is due to leave the EU at midnight on the 31st January 2020. In the event of an agreement before this date, the transitional arrangement agreed in the Withdrawal Agreement will apply and while formally a Third Country (i.e., a non-EU Member State); EU law will continue to apply during a transitionary period. Under a disorderly Brexit scenario, if the Withdrawal Agreement is not ratified and no deal has been agreed by this date, EU law would cease to apply to the UK and regulatory changes will be inevitable and will be implemented with immediate effect following departure.

While movements of fish and fishery products are largely unrestricted within the EU, exports to the UK post-Brexit will be classed as exports to a Third Country. Although the processes for importing and exporting between the EU and the UK are expected to change after exit day, the details and extent of these changes have yet to be finalised and will be dependent on the outcome of the ongoing negotiations.

2.2 Export Requirements

If the UK leave the EU without a deal in place, Irish exporters wishing to trade with the UK will be required to provide respective documentation for produce travelling to the UK (this guidance does not include direct landings of Irish vessels into the UK), for container, air or road freight the following documents will be required.

2.2.1 Exports of Irish produce

An Irish Catch Certificate will be required for all produce travelling to the UK whether produce is processed or not.

2.2.1.1 Exports of produce processed in Ireland originating from other Member States

A copy of the catch certificate for the respective produce, and an Irish processing statement/Annex IV that covers the processing conducted

2.2.1.2 Exports of produce processed in Ireland originating from Non-EU Countries

A copy of the catch certificate for the respective produce, and an Irish processing statement/Annex IV that covers the processing conducted.

2.2.1.3 Exports of produce not processed in Ireland originating from other Member States

A copy of the catch certificate that covers the produce being exported and a storage document.

2.2.1.4 Exports of produce not processed in Ireland originating from Non-EU Countries

A copy of the catch certificate that covers the produce being exported, with the re-export section of the catch certificate completed, and a storage document.

2.2.2 Export Certificate System (ECS)

The Export Certificate System (ECS) is used by exporters, Food Business Operators or agents (referred to as applicants), to acquire Irish catch certificates and Irish Processing statements/Annex IVs for exports to the UK only. Exports for consignments to other Non-EU countries will be conducting as per existing procedures that are in place.

2.2.3 Applicant Process

Access to the login page will be conducted via the following links.

There are two means of accessing the ECS, either as an **Unregistered User** or **a Registered User**

2.2.3.1 Unregistered User Access Screen

This option can be used by anyone requesting certification from the ECS, when using this option, you will be required to complete a CAPTCHA Process.

For anonymous users the link is:

https://publicapps.agriculture.gov.ie/ecs-ui/#/captcha

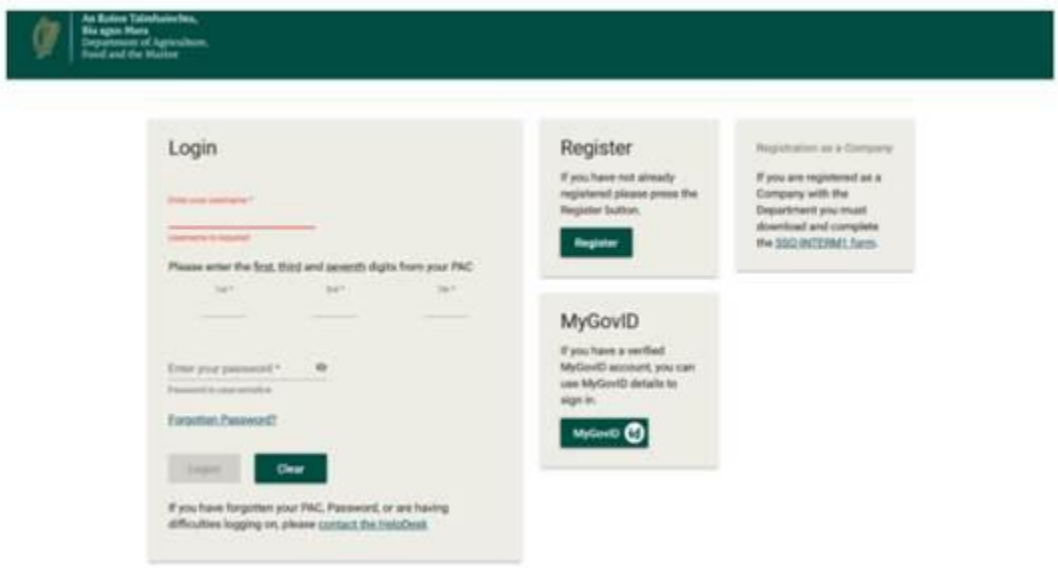
2.2.3.2 Registered User Access Screen

For registered external individual users

https://agfood.agriculture.gov.ie/sso-auth-ui-applicant/#/login

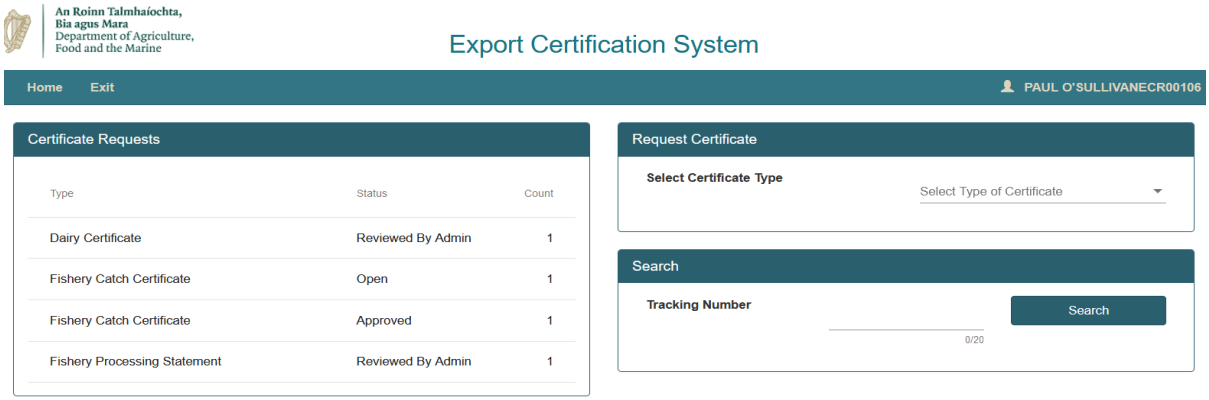
For registered external partners

https://agfood.agriculture.gov.ie/sso-auth-ui-partner/#/login

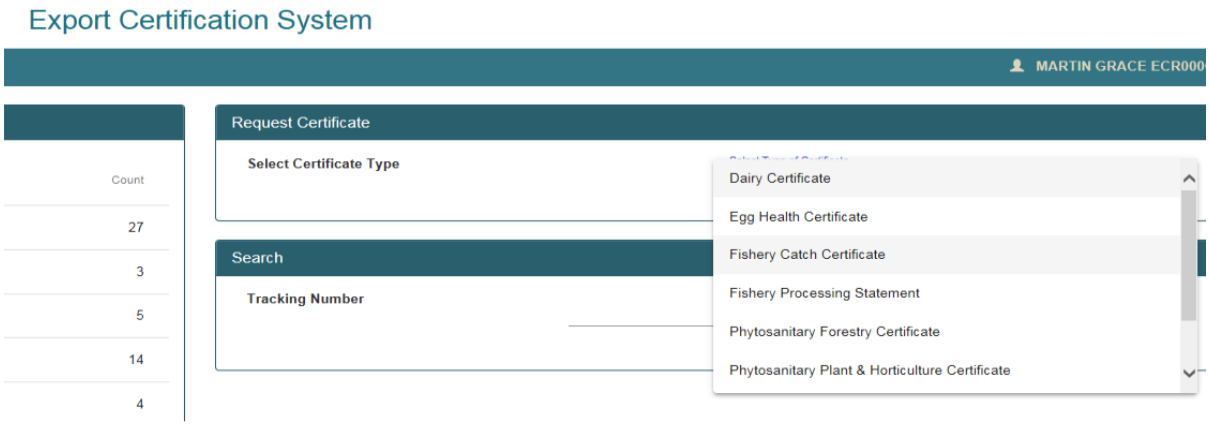


On the home page you can login with your Username, PAC and Password, that have been provided to you, if you haven't received login details, you can apply for a catch certificate or an Annex IV/Processing statement for the produce you are transporting to the UK as an unregistered user, as the latter you won't be in a position to track your application and details pertaining to you and your company will not be auto loaded at application stage.

Your dashboard will be displayed, here you will be able to apply for certification or monitor/search for previously made applications.

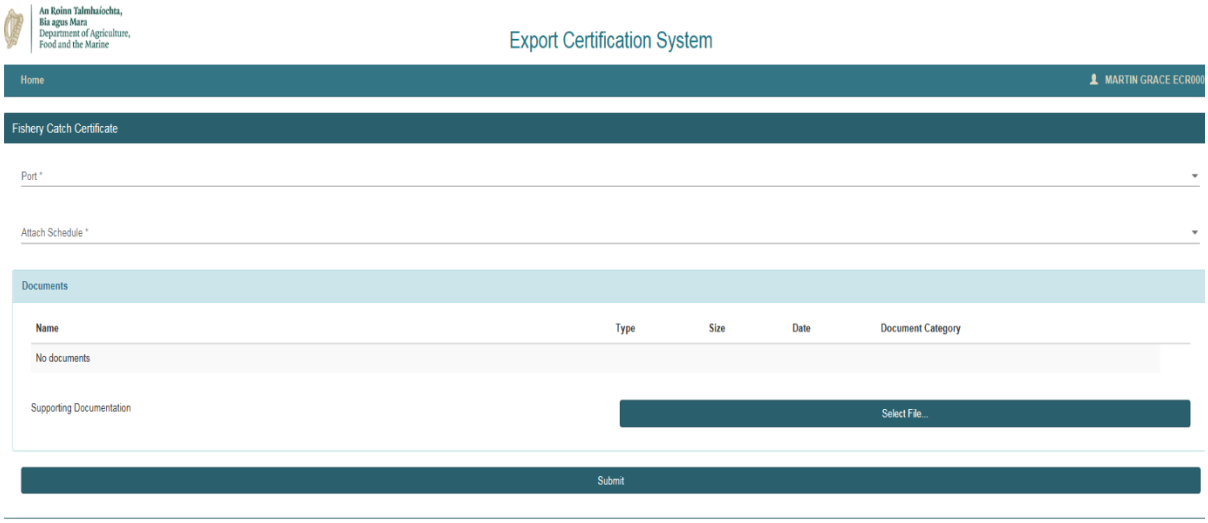


Click dropdown at Request Certificate and select 'Fishery Catch Certificate' to initiate process.


Export Certification System
MARTIN GRACE ECR000
Count
27
3
5
14
4
Request Certificate
Select Certificate Type
Search
Tracking Number
Dairy Certificate
Egg Health Certificate
Fishery Catch Certificate
Fishery Processing Statement
Phytosanitary Forestry Certificate
Phytosanitary Plant & Horticulture Certificate

3. Catch Certificate Requirements

An Irish catch certificate can only be validated for Irish produce, caught by Irish registered vessels. After selecting Fishery Catch Certificate from drop down box, the following will be displayed;



3.1. Catch Certificate application with schedule(s)

Port – You will need to select the SFPA port that has responsibility for your premises, they will be notified about your application via email.
Attach Schedule – A schedule will be required if the export is made up of produce from more than one vessel, or multiple landings from the same vessel, over various dates. A copy of the schedule is available on the public website, under 'Information for Exporters', 'Schedule for catch certificate'.

https://www.sfpa.ie/What-We-Do/Trade-Market-Access-Support/IUU-Fishing/Informationfor-Exporters

More than one schedule might be required for some consignments. It would be advisable that exporters/processors purchasing fishery produce from suppliers (2nd Sale), would request this information at time of purchase, this will prevent potential delays at application process stage.

If schedule is required select 'YES'. You as the applicant must complete the required fields of the schedule prior to uploading/attaching schedule to your application.

European Community Catch Certificate - Schedule

Document Number	IE SEAL	
		PRINT NAME
Date		SIGNATURE

NO.	Species	Presentation	Product Code	Date Landed	Consigned Weight (Kg)	Vessel Name	Master Name (Print)	Vessel Registration Number	Licence Number	Landing Port	Catch Areas
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
7											
8											
9											
10											
11											
12											
13											
14											
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16											
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20											
21											
22											
23											
24											
25											
26											
27											

If using a schedule, as the applicant, **you are not** required to enter details in the following fields; these are for official use only
- Document Number
- Date
- IE Seal
- Print Name
- Signature

The above are areas for the SFPA to complete when validating the catch certificate, if the above fields are completed, your application will be rejected, as the SFPA will not be in a position to validate the document.

As the applicant **you must complete** the following fields of the schedule prior to uploading document;

Species – This must be the scientific name for the species, the FAO 3-digit code or local colloquial names cannot be used here.

Presentation – A brief description of the product being exported, Tails, Breaded Fillets etc.

Product Code - This will be the full 8-digit code for the product that has been processed (headings 1604 & 1605) or (Chapter 3), CN Code information can be found on the SFPA Public website under Information for Exporters **CN Codes for Fish and Fishery Produce**

Date Landed – This will be required for all landings, from each vessel, that the consignment is made up from. If one vessel has conducted multiple landings these must be included as

individual entries also. This is required as the landing date is a means of crosschecking and traceability on landings and catch volumes from each trip.

Consignment Weight (Kg) – This is the quantity from each landing that is included in the consignment total.

Vessel Name – Each vessel that has catch incorporated in the consignment must be entered here, there may be more than one entry for the same vessel, if multiple landings have occurred.

Master Name – The master from each trip must be entered here, alternative trips from the same vessel may have alternative masters names.

Vessel Registration Number – The vessels identifying number is entered here

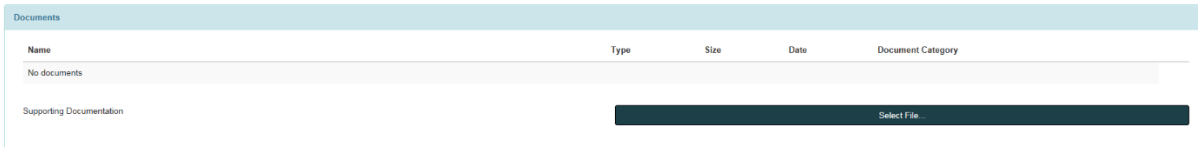
Licence Number – The respective vessels licence number is entered here

Landing Port – The port that the landing took place for the respective vessel trip

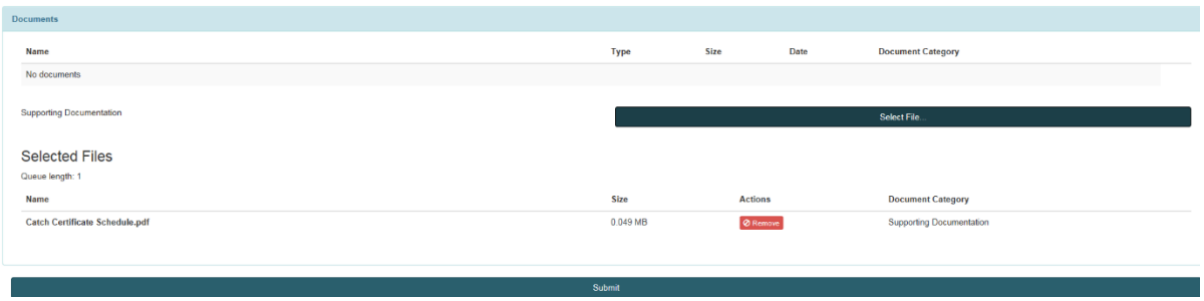
Catch Area – The ICES Zone that the catch was recorded in, or FAO 27 is acceptable.

3.1.1 Schedule Upload

Copies of the schedule(s) used, must be uploaded here using the 'Select File' option, the 'Schedule(s) must be accessible from the device the application is being made from, and in pdf format.



Once uploaded, the system will demonstrate as below, with the respective file name you have uploaded.



SCROLL APPLICATION PAGE DOWN

'Catch Est Live Weight' – This will be the consignment weight, in kilograms, that is being exported to the UK.

Exporter Name – The company name that is submitting the application

Exporter Business Address – Full business address to be included

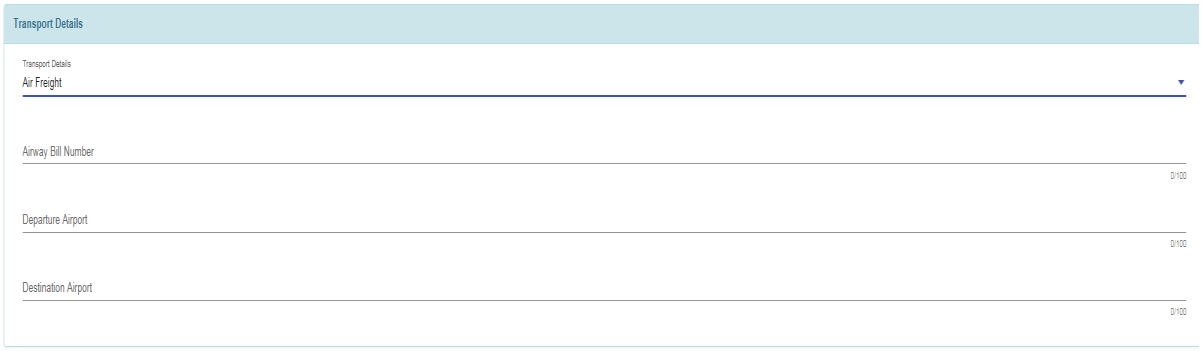
Exporter Email - Email address of exporter for correspondence purposes

3.1.2. Transport Details

There are three options here, Air Freight, Road Freight and Sea Freight, please select respective field and enter required information.

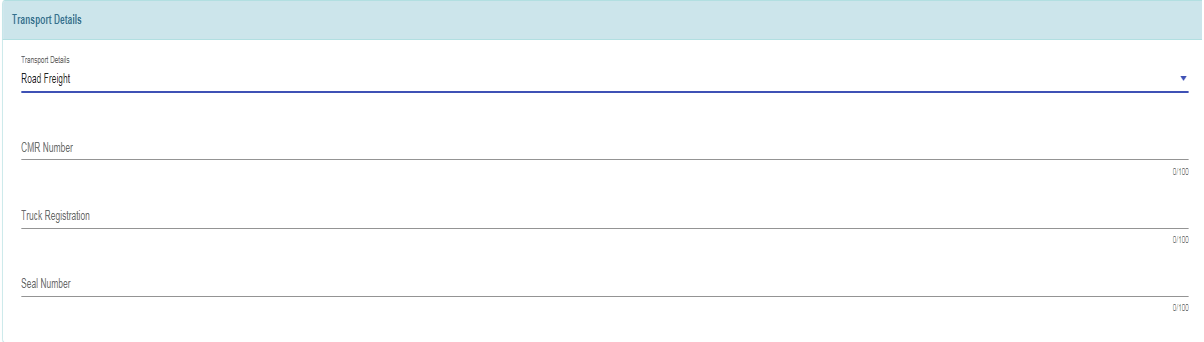
3.1.2.1. Air Freight

This is for the air travel only; there will be no requirement for detail of transfer from exporting premises to airport



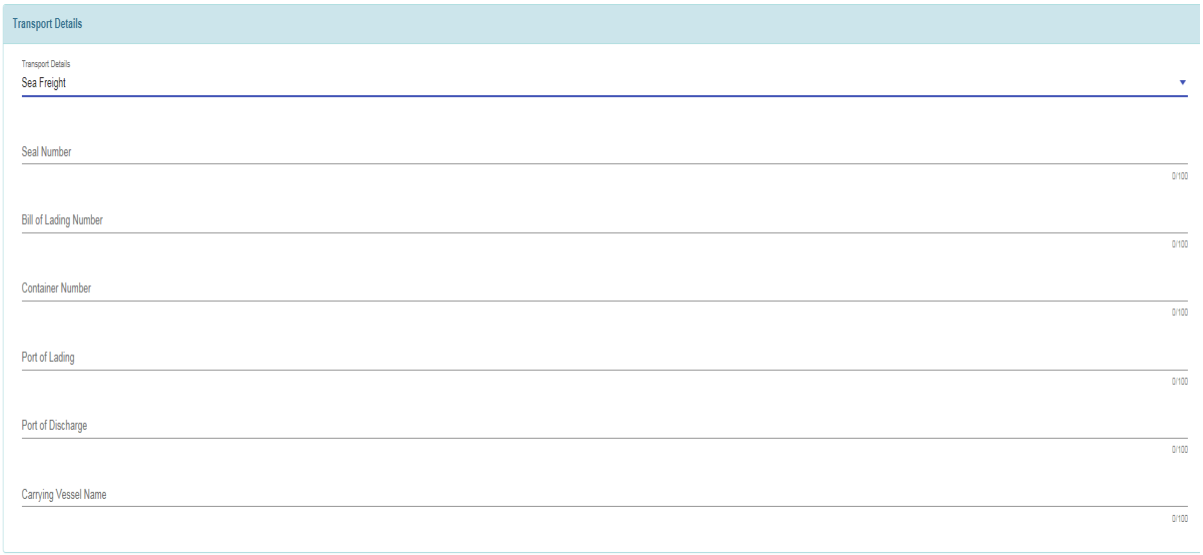
3.1.2.2. Road Freight

This section is used when product is travelling from exporter to consignee directly. CMR Number or transport document number can be entered here, if a seal is used on the truck/trailer, detail should be entered, otherwise n/a.



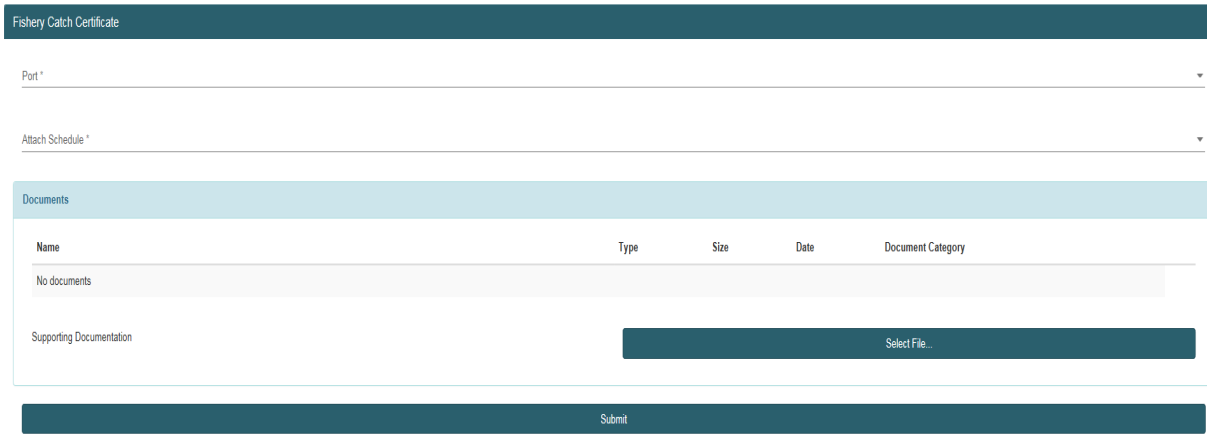
3.1.2.3. Sea Freight

This section is used for the transfer from Ireland to the UK by ferry only, if consignment is travelling on ferry by Trailer/truck, please enter 'transport/truck details' in 'container number' field, unless its just the container is travelling on trailer.



3.2. Catch Certificate application NO schedule

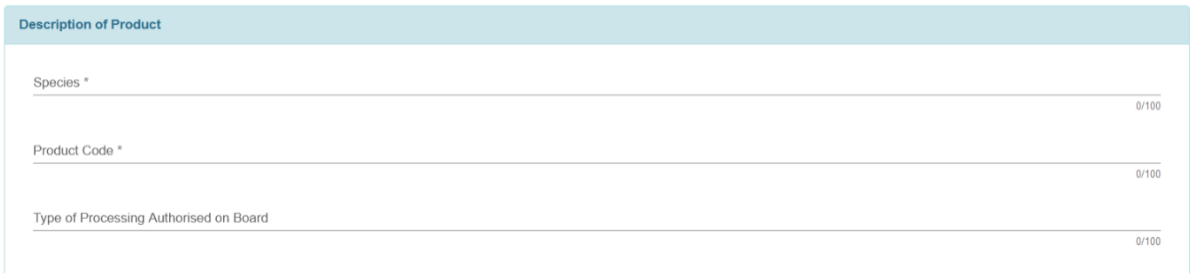
Port – You will need to select the SFPA port that has responsibility for your premises, they will be notified about your application via email, and will be processing your application.
Attach Schedule – Select No.



- **Fishing Vessel Name** – The name of the one vessel, having catch exported
- **Registration Number** – The registration number of the vessel, having catch exported
- **Flag** – Default entry
- **Home Port** – The home port of the vessel, having its catch exported

- **Call Sign** – The call sign of the vessel, having its catch exported.
- **IMO Number** – If issued
- **Lloyds Number** – If issued
- **Fishing Licence Number** – The licence number for the respective vessel
- **Fishing Licence Expiry Date** – Respective licence detail for vessel
- **Inmarsat Number** – If issued
- **Contact Telephone Number** – Applicants number if correspondence is required
- **Contact Fax Number –** If applicable
- **Contact email** – Applicants email address

3.2.1. Description of Product



Species – The scientific name of all of the species included in the catch certificate, are to be used only. No FAO codes or colloquial names are to be used.

Product Code - Product Code - This will be the full 8 digit code for the product that has been processed (headings 1604 & 1605) or (Chapter 3), CN Code information can be found on the SFPA Public website under Information for Exporters.

Type of Processing – If exporting a product, refer to the presentation of the fish, frozen, filleted, gutted etc.

3.2.2. Catch Details

Fishing Licence Expiry Date – Expiration date of applicable licence

Immarsat No – Immarsat number for respective vessel

Contact Tel No – Contact details for respective vessel

Contact Fax No – If available

Contact Email – Email address for respective vessel

Species - This must be the scientific name for the species, the FAO 3digit code or local colloquial names cannot be used here.

Type of Processing – If exporting a product with no additional processing conducted, refer to the presentation of the fish, frozen, filleted, gutted etc.

Catch Area – Drop down, select FAO 27

Landed Date 1 – The date the vessel landed the catch that is being exported

Catch Est Live Weight 1 – The quantity of the species being exported by the respective vessel. If there are more than one species from the same vessel incorporated in the consignment you will have to select 'Click to add another Catch' option. If there are more than 5 species from the one vessel in the consignment you will need to use a 'Catch Certificate Schedule' for your processed consignment.

Catch Est Weight to be Landed 1 – Disregard this field, n/a for a consignment being exported

Verified Weight Landed - Disregard this field, N/A for a consignment being exported

Master of Fishing Vessel Name – Enter Masters name in this field

Master of Fishing Vessel Address – The full address of the vessels master

Exporter Name – Full name of exporting company

Exporter Business Address – Full business address of exporting company

Exporter Email – Email address of exporting company for correspondence address.

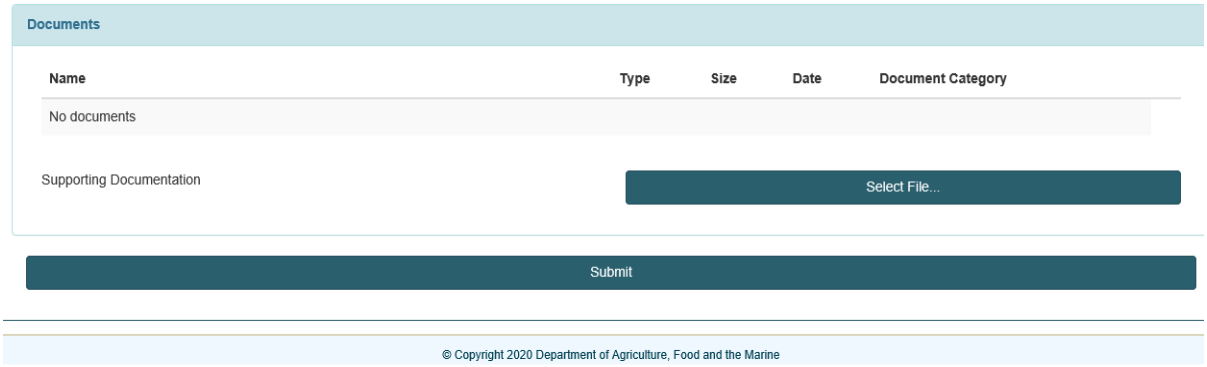
Transport Details – See requirements listed above in 'CATCH CERTIFICATE APPLICATION WITH SCHEDULE(S)'

3.3. Document Review and Application

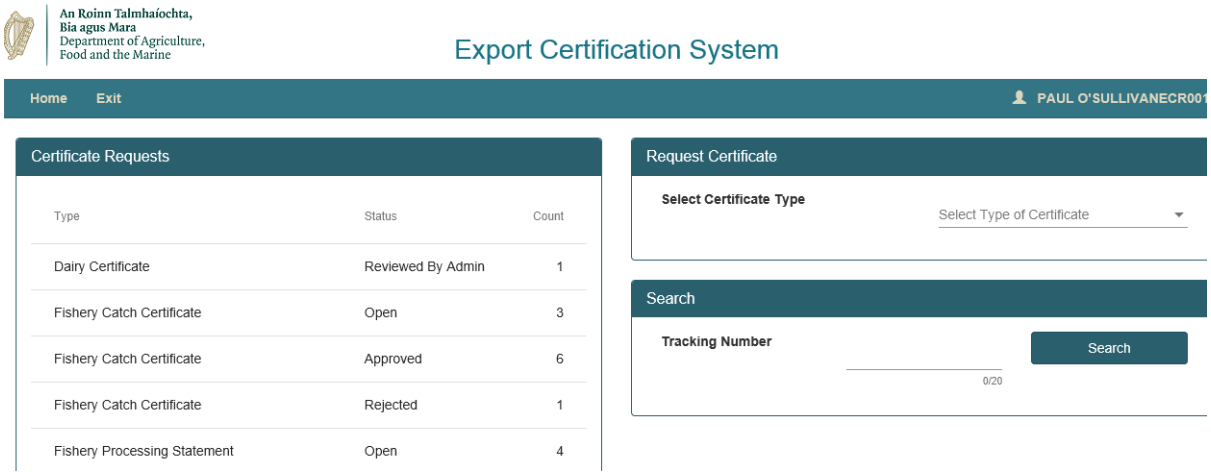
Review document content and once you are satisfied that it is correct, click on the 'Create' tab; this will push the application to the SFPA Port you have selected as part of the application process.

3.3.1. Application Review

Review document content and once you are satisfied that it is correct, click on the 'Submit' tab; this will push the application to the SFPA Port you have selected as part of the application process. Once submitted to the SFPA, you can view the status of application on your dashboard.



The application made will be displayed in the 'open' section of the ECS Dashboard



Once your application status changes from 'Open' you will receive notification of same. The application will then move from the 'Open' folder to 'Approved or 'Rejected', as applicable. This will be a result of actions taken by your respective SFPA Office.

If your application is rejected, please contact, the SFPA Office that the application has been made to, comments may have been left with your application, in the 'Documents Section' of your application, identifying any potential errors, where the application might need to be altered before being resubmitted for approval.

As part of the process you will need to liaise with your local SFPA Office, the application must be signed by the exporter and then validated/signed by the SFPA before it is finalised.

Once validated by the SFPA, the document can be forwarded with the consignment for verification checks to be conducted, with the UK competent authorities, as/if required.