



Trader Support Service (TSS) Weekly bulletin for registered users

Congratulations!

You are now signed up for the Trader Support Service. You will be eligible for TSS benefits immediately. **Please urge your suppliers and trading partners to register for TSS now by visiting www.tradersupportservice.co.uk**

Now I have registered, what benefits do I get?

TSS is a free-to-use digital service that will help you navigate the changes to the processes that apply to goods moving once the Northern Ireland Protocol comes into effect on 1 January 2021. It comes into effect and doesn't change even if a Free Trade Agreement is struck with the EU. By registering for the TSS, you have taken the first step to being ready, but there are other steps you must take which we set out below.

How do I benefit from the Training?

- You need to sign up to the training courses **now**. There is a lot of information you need to know as someone whose trade involves Northern Ireland.
- **Sign up to TSS training courses** at: www.nicustomstradeacademy.co.uk
- Introduction to Customs
- Introduction to TSS
- GB to NI Trade
- **Visit NICTA now** – plenty more courses and helpful guides will be released during November
- The **Contact Centre is now live**, you can access our agents if you need any help with your registration and support you with preparations for the smooth movement of goods once the transition period ends by completing an [online customer contact request](#).

What must I do now?

1. Get your EORI number.

You should now apply for your GB EORI number at <https://www.gov.uk/eori> so that you are recognised by government systems as a UK trader. This is easy to do, just five minutes on GOV.UK. If trade involves NI, you will also need an XI-prefixed EORI number. This is because for customs purposes, some EU rules apply in NI. **If you do not have this number by 1 January you will not be able to import or export goods into Northern Ireland.**

You will be auto-enrolled on 23 November for an XI EORI as long as you have a GB EORI and you are registered with the TSS.

Please let all your contacts and traders know that they must register by 23 November to be auto-enrolled. There is a manual process if you are not auto-enrolled, but it will be more time consuming if you have to do it yourself.

2. Talk to your suppliers

You should call all your GB suppliers if you are in Northern Ireland, and talk to them about the **terms of trade** you will have in your agreements. The **terms of trade** determine whose responsibility filling in the customs declaration is, the NI importer or the GB supplier. To make it easier all round, make sure that all your GB suppliers are registered with TSS.

3. Start preparing the data that TSS needs from you to do your customs declarations

You will have to provide data to TSS to ensure it can complete the customs process for you. Once your goods arrive in NI, TSS will ask you for commodity codes, invoice, weight, volume and value information so we can finish up the customs process for you. We will let you know exactly what information is needed and in what format to enable your declarations to be made. Commodity code information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/finding-commodity-codes-for-imports-or-exports>

Should I do something different if my goods arrive via container ship or plane, as opposed to roll-on, roll-off ferries/ships?

CNS, the entity which handles processes at ports is working with HMRC and the Trader Support Service to define how for import and export movements go through Northern Ireland inventory locations. We expect to be able to update CNS customers in early November. CNS, HMRC and the Trader Support Service are all committed to maintaining the smooth flow of goods through all locations. We're also discussing the same with CCS-UK, the entity which handles airports.

Important Government Guidance released this week

You should familiarise yourself with government guidance like EORI numbers and VAT (see <https://www.gov.uk/eori>)

What more information can I expect?

Now you are registered, you will receive a weekly bulleting highlighting the key things you need to do each week so that you are fully ready to trade on 1 January 2021.

