

UK confirms readiness for TIR when Brexit transition ends

London, 18 December 2020

The UK government has confirmed it is ready for increased TIR transits between the UK and the EU when the Brexit transition period ends in two weeks.

Extensive UK government planning and new support information for hauliers seeks to mitigate potential traffic and driver issues on the UK side of the border.

Responding to questions from leading EU road haulage companies at an IRU dialogue this week, senior figures from the Ministry of Transport and UK Customs (HMRC) confirmed that trained border staff are ready for TIR transits to, from and via the UK at all major ports from 1 January.

The UK has used the TIR system for over 70 years, albeit with smaller volumes during its membership of the EU single market from 1992.

With a post Brexit trade deal still being negotiated, road transport operators on both sides of the English Channel have expressed alarm at the uncertainty companies continue to face in planning shipments, especially for perishable food, arranging customs formalities and transit documentation, and making contingencies for logistical issues such as long truck queues.

The UK government's detailed [Hauliers Handbook](#) is now available in 14 languages, summarising all information needed for drivers and operators entering or leaving the UK from 1 January.

The UK's new [Check an HGV](#) system is also now online, with information for drivers on paperwork required to leave the UK, including how to register for a Kent Access Permit for heavy goods vehicles leaving via the port of Dover or Eurotunnel.

ESTA urges members that are planning to execute road transports with a vehicle over 7,5 t. GVW to or from the UK / EU after the 1st of January 2021, to familiarise themselves with these documents. They contain a very comprehensive overview of all regulations and arrangements that will be in place after the 1st of January.

IRU's hotline for accredited TIR hauliers will remain open throughout the holidays and the Brexit transition period. ESTA will endeavour to continue to provide traffic and border updates to our members if and when the situation calls for this.