

eCustoms Helpdesk Notification

Number:	Ref: 26/2021
Subject:	Importing vehicles from Northern Ireland
Who should read:	All those involved in importing vehicles
Related Notification:	24/2021 , 36/2020 , 32/2020 .
Issued by:	eCustoms Helpdesk
Queries to:	For technical queries relating to the submission of the declaration - ecustoms@revenue.ie For Brexit related queries – brexitqueries@revenue.ie
Issue Date:	02 March 2021

1. Introduction

Following the withdrawal of the UK from the European Union, an import of a vehicle from Great Britain is treated as an import from a third country, i.e. a non-EU country. If a vehicle is imported from Great Britain into Ireland, the importer is required to complete a customs declaration prior to import and pay customs duty, if applicable, and VAT at the standard rate. It will not be possible to register the vehicle if an import declaration has not been filed. Under customs law, VAT at import is chargeable on the customs value of the goods. The fact that VAT has been charged in Great Britain on used vehicles subsequently imported into the State has no bearing on their liability to VAT at import when imported into the EU.

Under the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland will continue to apply and adhere to EU rules in relation to trade in goods with the result that there are no customs formalities, including customs declarations or payment of tariffs, on trade between Ireland and Northern Ireland.

On 14 January, the UK introduced significant changes to the UK VAT margin scheme for used cars imported from Great Britain into Northern Ireland. These changes are not in compliance with provisions of EU law on VAT that apply in Northern Ireland as per Article 8 of the Protocol. Accordingly, used cars that are imported into NI from GB after 31 December 2020, under the rules currently in force in the UK are not single market goods and cannot be brought into the State as if they were. Therefore, when they are brought into the State, they are liable for VAT and duty on the same basis as used cars brought into the State from Britain.

2. Requirements to register a vehicle in Ireland

Vehicles registered and used in Northern Ireland before the end of the Brexit transition period on 1 January 2021 can be registered here in the same way as before without any check on the customs status.

Used cars that are imported into NI from GB, after 31 December 2020, and subsequently brought into Ireland will therefore need to have associated declarations on Revenue's Automated Import System to meet the single market requirements. This will bring any outstanding customs duties and VAT to account.

Key details on how to complete the declaration on Revenue's Automated Import System (AIS) are outlined here:

Cars coming from Great Britain via Northern Ireland require a H1 declaration submitted to AIS

- Data Element (D/E) 1/2: Declaration Type – A
- D/E 1/6: Goods Items Number – 1 – 1 vehicle being imported
- D/E 1/10: – Procedure Code – 4000 (unless returned goods relief is being claimed – see below)
- D/E 1/11 – Additional Procedure Code – 000 (unless returned goods relief is being claimed – see below)
- D/E 2/1: previous document field - a commercial invoice number
- D/E 2/3: additional information:
 - N730 1234 – this is the transport document. There is usually a space between them
 - 1D96 1 – a code to avoid putting in ship information
 - 1D97 VIN (vehicle registration number)
 - 1D24 CCYYMMDDHHMM – time of the arrival of the goods into the State
- D/E 2/5: Local reference Number – unique number chosen by you for your internal records
- Customs Office of Lodgement: IEDUB100
- D/E 5/8: Country of Destination – IE
- D/E 5/23: Location of goods code: IEDUB100, Location type code: B, Qualifying identifier: U
- D/E 6/8: Goods description – free text e.g. car
- D/E 6/14: Classification Code (CN)
- D/E 7/4: Mode of Transport at the Border – should be 1
- D/E 7/5: Inland mode of transport - should be 3
- D/E 7/9: Identify means of transport – include vehicle registration number

OPTIONAL

Returned Goods Relief (if relevant)

DE 1/10 – relevant procedure code – either 6123 (re-import after temporary export) or 6110 (re-import after permanent export)

DE 1/11 – additional procedure code – F01 duty relief or F05 duty and VAT relief

D/E 2/3

- If car was originally exported from IE/EU – DE 2/3 enter code 1Q27 and MRN of original export declaration

UK Origin Goods Claiming Preference (if relevant)

- U116/U117/U118 - code to claim preferential origin if UK origin
- D/E 4/17: Preference – 300
- D/E 5/16: Country of Preferential Origin Code - GB

EU Origin Goods (if relevant)

- D/E 4/17: Preference – 100
- D/E 5/15: Country of origin code - EU

Postponed Accounting (if relevant)

- 1A05 – IEPOSTPONED – to trigger Postponed Accounting

NOTE: Further data is required to complete the full customs declaration.

3. Further information

Information in relation to the registration of imported used vehicles to Ireland from 1 January 2021 can be found here:

<https://www.revenue.ie/en/importing-vehicles-duty-free-allowances/guide-to-vrt/registration-of-imported-used-vehicles/index.aspx>

The EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) has eliminated tariff duties for trade between the EU and Great Britain where the relevant rules of origin are met. If the goods are of UK origin, then a 0% tariff rate applies. Under the terms of the TCA, goods of EU origin that were in use in the UK and that were subsequently imported into Ireland from Great Britain will not be eligible for the 0% tariff rate as they will not qualify as UK origin under the rules of origin.

To import a car of EU origin from Great Britain into Ireland, a customs declaration must be completed. Customs duty of 10% applies on the customs value of the car. The customs value is the invoice price plus the cost of transport and insurance. VAT at the standard rate is calculated on the customs value plus customs duty.

There is a Returned Goods Relief available for vehicles subject to strict EU conditions. Vehicles can be exported from the EU to a 3rd country and re-imported into the EU without the payment of Customs Duty provided all the required conditions for Returned Goods Relief are met. In very specific circumstances, relief from Value-Added Tax may also apply where the vehicle is re-imported into the EU by the same person that originally exported the goods out of the EU. The conditions are

- The vehicle must have been originally exported from the EU
- Must not have been altered and
- Must be re-imported within three years of export from the EU.

Details of how to claim returned goods relief for cars is on the Revenue website at

www.revenue.ie/en/customs-traders-and-agents/customs-electronic-systems/aep/ecustoms-notifications/2021/ecustoms-notification-24-2021.pdf.

If the car is of UK origin, it is important to note that the preferential tariff treatment must be claimed on import on the Customs declaration. Details on how to do this are also available on the Revenue website.

VRT contact information: <https://www.revenue.ie/en/contact-us/customer-service-contact/vehicle-registration-tax-vrt.aspx>