



Isle of Man
Government

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Information for Isle of Man Vessel Owners in the event of a no deal Brexit – If you intend to make a direct landing into an EU country

Dear Vessel Owner,

As an Isle of Man registered vessel if you currently land or intend to land fish directly into EU ports, you will need to use the new digital services to create catch certificates and other export documents. Register onto GOV.UK to prepare for a no deal Brexit.

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, IOM businesses exporting fish to the EU will have to follow new rules and processes to demonstrate that fish has been caught legally and sustainably. These rules will also apply to vessel owners or skippers making direct landings from UK and Isle of Man vessels into EU ports.

Landing fish into EU ports in a no deal

UK and Isle of Man registered fishing vessels landing into the EU will have to create a catch certificate for most fish and fish products landed if the UK leaves without a deal (excluding some aquaculture products, freshwater fish, some molluscs, scallops, fish fry or larvae). Prior to landing you will also be required to create and submit a prior notification of your intended arrival and a pre-landing declaration to the designated EU port. This is in addition to the current requirements when using electronic logbooks. To note, prior notification forms for frozen fish need to be submitted 72 hours (3 days) in advance of landing into an EU port.

To find out what documents you need in order to export fish to the EU if there's no Brexit deal, visit www.gov.uk/brexit-import-export-fish

Register now

The UK Fisheries Authorities have developed a new digital service to enable exporters to complete catch certificates and other supporting documents electronically.

You can use the new service today to create sample export documents before the UK leaves the EU. To access the service you'll need to sign in and create a Government Gateway user ID. Make a note of your Government Gateway user ID and password so you can sign in next time. You will then need to create a business Defra account using your business contact details. You will only need to register once.

To register, visit www.gov.uk/brexit-import-export-fish click on "create a UK catch certificate" scroll down and click on "start" then follow the instructions. You will require an email address that you have access to.

Prepare your business today

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, IOM exporters will need to use the new digital service to create the necessary export documents. If your export does not have the correct documentation it may be refused or detained.

Registering early gives exporters time to test the new service before the UK leaves the EU. Any sample documents created before end March 2019 will not be valid for export. If you experience any problems with the service, please let the UK contact centre know through the feedback link in the service. The UK government will be continuing to make improvements over the coming months.

For further information, or if you have any queries, contact details are available on the GOV.UK website on the link provided.

Kind regards,



Karen McHarg
Director of Fisheries

IOM link to Exporters' checklist: <https://www.gov.im/categories/business-and-industries/exporting-live-animals-food-and-drink-plants-and-plant-products-to-the-european-union/>

Key facts to support this letter

- In the event of a no deal, under Regulation (EC) 1005/2008, most fish and fish products will require a catch certificate for import or export between the IOM, UK and the EU. Catch certificates prove that fish has been caught in accordance with established conservation and management measures. All non-EU countries are required to present catch certificates when trading with the EU.
- The content of the catch certificate will need to be verified by the IOM fisheries authority where the vessel is licensed. In addition to completing a catch certificate. If an IOM flagged fishing vessels intends to land directly into the EU they will need to land their catch in a designated EU port. EU designated ports will require prior notification of your arrival and a prior notification form and pre-landing declaration will need to be completed. You can create all these documents using the new digital services.