



Export process for Equidae to the EU Notes

Please note that this document should be read in conjunction with the Equine Exports to the EU Tick List.

Following the departure of the United Kingdom and Crown Dependencies from the European Union (EU), we are known as third countries and the Tripartite Agreement no longer exists. Now that we are a third country to the EU, there are several changes in the way that equines can be exported to the EU, outlined below.

- 1) An **export health certificate (EHC)** is required. These detail the EU health requirements for imports from non-EU countries. The States Veterinary Officers (SVOs) will do a health check and issue these, therefore contact them well in advance of the export so that they can prepare the certificate.

Guernsey is listed by the EU as a 'third country' within Sanitary Group A (also called phytosanitary group A). This allows equines to enter the EU, provided that they can comply with the disease testing, isolation, residency and certification requirements laid down in EU legislation for this group of countries.

- 2) The establishment from which the horse will be dispatched from in Guernsey is required to be **registered with the competent authority** in Guernsey and will be allocated a **county parish holding (CPH) number**. Records of all horses kept at the establishment, including their identification, movements in and out and any deaths must be maintained. The establishment must have regular visits from a veterinarian to check for symptoms of specified diseases.
- 3) **Residency requirements**. During their pre-export residency period, horses must not come into contact with any diseased Equidae or Equidae that have entered Guernsey from a non-EU country from any other Sanitary Group.
 - a. During the period prior to departure to the EU:
 - i. Registered horses must be under veterinary supervision for 30 days/since birth (if less than 30 days old).
 - ii. Unregistered horses must be kept separate from other equines for at least 30 days/since birth (if less than 30 days old).
 - b. The operator responsible for the consignment must sign a declaration that isolation and residency requirements have been complied with (this forms part of the EHC).
- 4) **All equines must be tested for Equine Infectious Anaemia (EIA) prior to export**. A blood sample must be collected by Authorised Veterinarians (AV's) and all tests must be carried out in a laboratory recognised by the UK for equine export testing. The blood sample must be collected within 90 days of departure.
 - a. It is important to read the microchip at the time of sampling and to enter the microchip number on the laboratory submission form. This ensures that the number will also be entered on the laboratory report.



- b. It is essential that the horse identification details on the laboratory report exactly matches the description of the horse on the EHC, in the passport and on the supplementary travel documents.

Transporting your equine.

- 5) **The exporter must engage an import agent in France.** This is a requirement when an animal enters a country through a Border Control Post (BCP). The import agent is responsible for completing electronic documents on the European Commission's online platform for imports from third countries called TRACES-NT (Trade Control and Expert System – New Technology). The import agent must complete a CHED-A (Common Health Entry Document for Animals) part 1, 24 hours prior to the arrival. This alerts the French BCP of the horses import.
- 6) **If the movement could be considered commercial, the transporter must have the required authorisations to operate in the EU.** A commercial transport is described as *“Any transport of animals undertaken as part of a business or commercial activity, which aims at achieving financial gain, whether direct or indirect, for any person or company involved with transport”*.

UK issued transporter authorisations, certificates of competence and certificates of vehicle approval are not valid for use in the EU. To transport live animals into the EU, UK transporters must apply to an EU member state for a transporter authorisation. Many people choose to apply for authorisations in the Republic of Ireland to overcome language difficulties. You can only hold an authorisation in one EU member state; however, this is valid throughout the EU.

Transport authorisations are NOT needed for the following journeys:

- a. consisting of a single horse or pony accompanied by a person who has responsibility for its welfare (or two horses or ponies accompanied by two people; up to a maximum of four horses or ponies accompanied by four people),
- b. where horses and ponies are transported by an owner for the purpose of riding, showing or competing for pleasure e.g. show jumping, gymkhanas etc. However, professional riders and hauliers paid to take such animals to shows etc. would require an authorisation,
- c. where individuals attending shows or competitions primarily for pleasure share the burden of transport e.g. petrol costs, but where there is no profit made by the individual undertaking the transport.

Further information on transport authorisations can be found [here](#).

- 7) **Export declarations must be made to customs officials.** Guernsey is no longer in the EU Customs Union for trade in agricultural products, which included equines. Consequently, transporters must present their equines to customs officials at the French BCP and they, or their import agent, will have to make an export declaration even if the equines admission into the EU is temporary. The transporter or import agent may be required to pay import duties on the horse.

Exporters or import agents may want to consider utilising an *“ATA Carnet”* to simplify French Customs processes, particularly if they are regular travellers through a BCP. The Guaranteeing



Authority for the ATA Carnet is the London Chamber of Commerce. Further information can be found [here](#). Also see [ATA Carnet – The Basics](#).

- 8) **Un-registered equines must be issued with official supplementary travel identification documents which must accompany the equine with its passport.** The supplementary identification can only be issued by an Authorised Veterinarian and is only valid for a single journey. The SVOs will provide the supplementary travel ID with the EHC when they check the equine before travel.

- 9) When all or part of the journey is by sea, the **master of the vessel transporting an equine to France is required to complete a welfare declaration.** Print this document in both [English](#) and [French](#) to be signed by the Master of the Condor Ferry on the date of travel. This declaration is not part of the EHC.

Passports

When any equines are being transported, they must always be accompanied with their passport. The owner and the Authorised Veterinarian must check that the passport is valid.

- Part II Section II (or Part II Section IX in pre-2016 passports) of the passport must be signed.
- When scanned, the microchip number must be the same as the number recorded in the passport. Please note, a passport will have the 'Unique Equine Life Number' (UELN) assigned by the PIO (Passport Issuing Organisation) that first identifies the horse. The UELN number is not the same as the microchip number.
- Check that the silhouette matches the horse and that this has been confirmed by a vet. If necessary, the Authorised Veterinarian could confirm this by signing, writing their name in block capitals, dating and stamping the silhouette.
- Check that appropriate medications and vaccinations are being recorded.
- The passport must match the records held on the [UK Central Equine Database](#) (UKCED).