

Temporary movement of professional equipment between UK and EU From 01/01/2021

If you're based in UK:

You'll need to use an ATA Carnet to declare the movement of equipment into/out of the EU.

The EU can be regarded as a single territory for Carnet purposes: for example, you can import into France and re-export from Belgium; once imported into an EU state, the goods can be moved freely between the 27 EU states with no further Customs declaration required. The Carnet is only operated again when you leave the EU, either to return to UK or to travel elsewhere.

If you're based in one of the 27 EU countries:

You'll need to use an ATA Carnet to declare the movement of equipment into/out of UK.

If you're based outside UK/EU (in a country which is in the ATA system):

You'll need to use an ATA Carnet to enter/leave UK or EU as usual, but you'll now need to operate the Carnet for movements between UK and EU, so allow for extra pairs of white vouchers when obtaining your Carnet.

What is an ATA Carnet?

A Carnet is a "passport for goods", enabling you to temporarily import/export professional equipment to/from around 70 countries, including UK and EU, without payment of duty or taxes. It currently takes the form of a paper document; in due course this will be replaced by an app-based paperless system.

A Carnet can be obtained from your local Chamber of Commerce, or – in some territories, including UK - from an independent broker. The cost is dependent on the value and nature of the goods being transported; the duration of the trip; and the security rates set by each destination country.

The Carnet must be operated at the point of exit/entry in each territory, i.e. Customs at the port (e.g. Dover/Calais) or airport (the point of international departure/arrival.) NOTE: if you have connecting flights within UK, the Carnet must be operated at the airport at which your international flight arrives/departs, NOT your domestic origin/destination.

A Carnet can be valid for up to 12 months, and can cover multiple tours as long as no additions are made to the goods. The goods must return to the country of origin before expiry date of the Carnet.

Further information (primarily for UK-based bands):

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