



Brexit and our relationship with our UK customers and friends.

Sadly, the United Kingdom's choice to cease to participate in the EU's Single Market and Customs Union and put an end to the free movement of persons, goods and services with the EU came into force on 31 December 2020. This means that the EU- UK relationship has changed significantly for businesses on both sides from that date onwards.

At Sleeptite® we have been preparing for this event for some time. You can take comfort in the fact that with a sales reach worldwide we at Sleeptite® are no strangers to the procedures surrounding imports and exports and you have our full support to make the transactions as seamless as possible.

The good news is that a “no deal with tariffs has been avoided” so in our opinion the UK's departure from the single market will have minimal additional impact to our trading relationship with our UK customers and friends.

Some things will change.

UK businesses simply cannot import or export without being registered with UK customs. This can be done online with Revenue at any time and can be completed in 10 minutes.

Ensure you have a Customs Registration Number – EORI <https://www.gov.uk/transition>

The following is a very useful link.

<https://www.prepareforbrexit.com/Insights/customs-logistics/>

We anticipate the following potential issues might arise

- 1) Customs & paperwork will be required
- 2) Taxes –HM Customs will require you to pay VAT at point of entry.
- 3) Continuity of supply in the early days could arise.

Customs & paperwork

We have aligned with several clearing agents who will look after both your export and import customs paperwork. Fees for this service are likely to be +/- £50.00 per transaction. We plan to absorb this on transactions above £1000.00 net.

We will send you a form to complete which will contain all the necessary information for your order to be processed and have it cleared by HM Customs. (It can be completed in less than 3 minutes) Once the form is completed, we can retain the information for future use – only with your permission of course. We request you to complete this form at time of order.

Under normal circumstances customs clearance is usually done same day goods arrive in a “preclearance” system or latest the following day.

Taxes will include VAT which you normally pay to your UK suppliers with all purchase transactions.

From January 1st 2021 the same procedure will apply to goods shipped from Sleeptite® to UK as always, except VAT must be paid to HM Customs prior to goods clearing / entering the UK.

By agreement in advance, the appointed clearing agent can accept the VAT payment in advance from you and pay HM customs on your behalf, or you can pay HM Revenue directly which ever is most convenient for you, – The agent will notify the customer in advance of the goods arrival for this payment to be made. Your VAT payment is then recoverable in the same way it is today with your UK suppliers. You will be provided with “VAT proof of payment” documentation and it is vitally important you ensure you receive same and retain it in your records. This procedure is processed electronically, and the transaction time is usually as fast as the bank payment transfer allows. Not paying the owed taxes will incur storage charges on the goods, which could eventually be returned to Sleeptite. The “demurrage” (storage) charges incurred are designed to be prohibitive to avoid clogging up warehouses.

Tariffs – Duty will not be applied –

All goods are assigned a HS / Taric (tariff) code. This has 2 functions

- a) For statistical purposes
- b) To determine the rate of duty to be paid upon importing goods, in our case this will not arise.

VAT is calculated on the “delivered” price of the goods.

Continuity of supply.

Until things bed down there could be some supply issues – These are likely to apply no matter where you source your goods – so please understand some extra lead time would be advisable.

Transport delays and costs

December and January normally see transport delays, extended schedules, general disruption due to high volumes and weather-related issues. Brexit may add to these delays in the short term, so it is advisable wherever possible to allow an extra week to lead /delivery times.

At Sleeptite® we are committed to giving our UK customers the same high quality of service post Brexit that they always enjoyed. So, if you fill in the form including your EORI no. we and our agents will do the rest on your behalf. The only change will be that at the appropriate time our agent will request VAT payment which is recoverable in the normal way.

All at Sleeptite® wish our UK friends fair winds and following seas as they cast off to embark on the great adventure of independence and self-determination. We wish you safe passage and bright horizons so you can follow your dreams and ambitions.

Please don't forget your friends standing with heavy hearts on the shore bidding you farewell.