

Getting ready for Brexit ! This is what we are doing.....

We are filling our shelves now in anticipation of increased lead times in January when the UK leaves the customs union. Inevitably goods will take longer to arrive in early 2021 with the new border arrangements. Hopefully, an agreement will be struck to avoid tariffs. We have built increased lead times into our inventory planning

Next year we will have to complete customs declarations when sending goods to Ireland and possibly Northern Ireland. Our ERP system enables us to upload a commercial invoice to DPD and UPS . We found our carriers are well prepared and hopefully we do not need to employ a freight forwarding agent to complete the necessary formalities .Our preparation has meant that each item in our ERP system must have the tariff code, country of origin, customs description, and sales price. Although our data was historically comprehensive, it has been an intensive time checking that everything is accurate and complete. If the data is not correct or complete, customs will send the goods back to the original destination.

All companies must have a GB EORI number which we have always had, but it may be worth checking if you need an additional EU EORI number for exporting to Europe.

Another risk is the new wave of Covid in Europe. At the moment the factories which supply us are running at full speed , but it makes sense to increase stock levels as a precaution

It's hard to remember times being more uncertain but it makes sense to plan ahead and ensure our customers receive a normal service.

