

How to export... to the European Union?

The Export Helpdesk is an online service to inform on how to export to the European Union

This free and user-friendly service provides all necessary information concerning EU import requirements, tariffs, trade preferential agreements and statistics in a tailor-made way:
*product by product,
country by country*

Your one-stop-shop to access the European market!

www.exporthelp.europa.eu



About the Export Helpdesk	Requirements and Taxes	Import tariffs	Preferential arrangements	Trade statistics	Links
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The European Union (EU) is the world's biggest single market. Many exporters round the world want to export their products to the EU to meet consumer demand. Sometimes though, exporters feel they lack information on how to export to the EU and how to meet the EU standards. Help is at hand!

Do you want to export your products to the European Union? Explore the Export Helpdesk!

*Would you like to benefit from trade preferences the EU offers to developing countries?
Are you an importer in Europe who needs to import goods for your industry?*

Export Helpdesk is there to help **you**.

This online service is provided free of charge by the European Commission to assist businesses in developing countries to get access to information on how to export to the EU.

What kind of information does Export Helpdesk provide?

- **Requirements and taxes:** all documents required for customs clearance, product-specific legal or market requirements and internal taxes (VAT and excise) applicable in every EU country;
- **Import tariffs** and other import measures: Most Favoured Nation (MFN) tariffs and preferential import tariffs, as well as quotas, import licence requirements, anti-dumping measures, etc.;
- **Trade statistics:** trade flows between the EU and non-EU countries;
- **Preferential arrangements:** the EU's main trading arrangements with developing countries, documents that must accompany goods, and rules of origin exporters must comply with to get preferential treatment;
- **Business contacts:** EU and national trade authorities, international trade bodies, market places and business directories;
- **What's New:** the quarterly newsletters of the Export Helpdesk;
- **Contact:** an address to which you can send your questions.



1 What is my product's code number in the European classification of goods?

Before jumping into the European market, you need to know the specific code your product has in the European classification of goods. With that, you can find the details that apply to your specific product (food, textile, raw material, etc).

To find the code, click on the Export Helpdesk 'input form' and type your product's name on the 'search' button.

Browse the database. You will find, for instance, that 'green beans' are classified with the code 0708 20 00, 'shrimps' (of the genus *Penaeus*) with 0306 13 50 and 'cotton t-shirts' with 6109 10.

2 What requirements need to be fulfilled for my product to enter the EU? What taxes apply to my product?

Now, you need to know what conditions your product needs to fulfil to enter the European market. For instance, what are the requirements on health control for animal products? What are the plant health control regulations? What are the labelling rules? What are the technical standards? What is the VAT rate applicable to your product in each EU country? You will find this information in the 'Requirements and Taxes' section. Once you type in your product's code and fill in the input form, you will find the complete list of requirements applying to your product and the VAT rate for the country in which you are interested.

3 What is the duty applicable to my product? Does a preferential trade agreement apply to my country and my product?

In the 'Import Tariffs' section, you can find the customs duty that applies to your product. Besides, the EU has multiple trade agreements worldwide that decrease the import tariffs for many products from developing countries.

In the Import Tariffs section, you can also find out if your product and your country benefit from a preferential customs duty and the rate for the reduced tariff for your product.

For instance, if your country benefits from the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP), many products can enter the EU market with reduced or even zero import tariffs.

4 What preferential arrangements I am entitled to? How can I certify the origin of my product?

In the 'Preferential arrangements' section you will find detailed information on the trade agreements the EU has with your country. Under the sub-section 'Documents you need', you will find the proof of origin you must submit to show your product comes from your country. These will enable you to benefit from any available import tariff reductions.

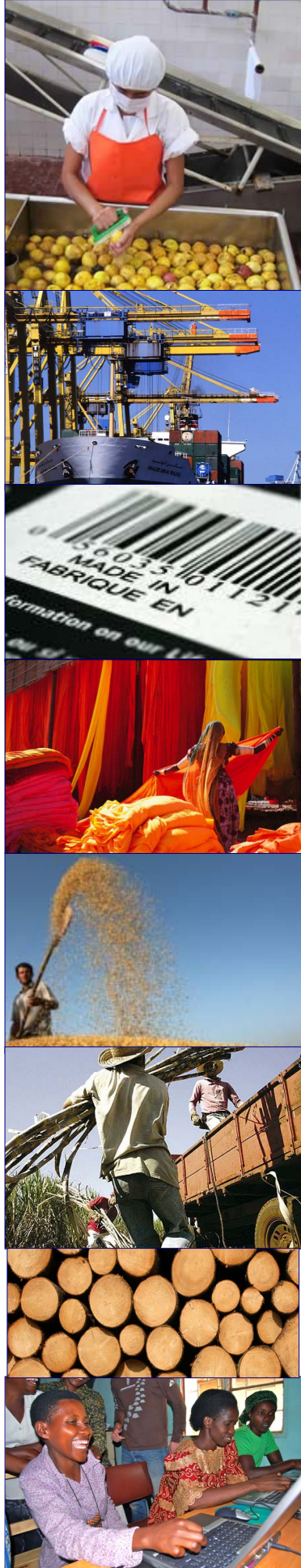
Through the input form, you can find out the conditions that apply for your product to be classified as 'originating' from your country.

5 How can I obtain detailed statistics about trade flows?

In the 'Trade Statistics' section you will see how much of your product has been exported to the EU since 2002 and which EU countries imported it. You can get a complete overview of EU trade flows by product in just few clicks.

6 How can I find EU partners?

By consulting the 'Links' section, you will find lists of EU customs authorities, EU Chambers of Commerce, trade and professional associations as well as links to business-to-business platforms and business directories.



How to contact the Export Helpdesk?

Website www.exporthelp.europa.eu E-mail exporthelp@ec.europa.eu

Or contact the EU round the world. Check where your nearest office is: www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations