

## Use the common transit convention (CTC)

Some of the logistics difficulties around transit routes between Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and the Great Britain may be eased due to the UK's decision to enter the common transit convention (CTC).

As part of the UK government's preparations for Brexit, the UK has applied to re-join the CTC when it leaves the EU. The CTC facilitates cross border movements of products between contracting parties to the convention, by enabling any charges due on those goods to be paid only in their country of destination.

If you use CTC you only have to pay duty when your products reach their final destination, and some customs procedures can be carried out away from the border.

The convention reduces the need for additional customs checks on products passing through a country en route to their final destination. Having the UK as a member of the CTC could help ease customs delays and red-tape post Brexit for firms exporting to the UK and vice-versa.

What you should do now:

- If you decide to use CTC, decide on whether you make transit declarations yourself or whether you will use an agent or freight forwarder.
- Get ready to use CTC by ensuring you are prepared to make transit declarations and contact your bank to put in place HMRC approved customs guarantees for your products.
- Where you intend to use CTC regularly, consider applying to be an authorised consignor/consignee.