

7th December 2020

Dear Clients,

Eucon Shipping & Transport Ltd. is Ireland's largest short sea container line moving goods to and from the north European ports of Antwerp and Rotterdam to the Irish ports of Dublin, Cork and Belfast.

With the pending withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union now set for 1st January 2021, the impact is becoming clearer, allowing us to progress our plans to ensure we are ready to handle our client's best interests.

The three key points of note are Capacity, Equipment and the impact of the Protocol.

Capacity:

Eucon are delighted to announce the addition of the M/v MUSIC, a modern 800 teu (twenty-foot equivalent unit) vessel, to our existing fleet the first week of January 2021.

This significant upgrade in capacity enhances our current weekly offering ensuring we are ready for any uplift in carryings from the market arising from Brexit - including those considering switching from the UK landbridge option to a direct short sea container offering.

The addition of the M/v Music to our fleet creates not just additional capacity but also a flexibility within our comprehensive sailing schedules that will allow us to adapt to changing market circumstances at short notice.

Equipment:

As committed to in our previous circulations on Brexit, Eucon have taken delivery of over 700 pieces of new equipment comprising mainly of 45ft dry, 45ft reefer and 45ft curtain-sided units.

With the roadmap ahead becoming clearer, we have taken the decision to add an additional 400 x 45ft pallet wide high cube containers to our fleet. These new builds will come on stream in the first half of 2021 increasing our fleet to over 4,200 pieces.

This enhancement to our fleet ensures we continue to provide the highest standard of equipment required by our clients in the servicing of the pharma, dairy and food trades.

The Protocol

As Eucon services operate directly from European ports to the island of Ireland, we expect there will be no change for the movement of goods on our services due to the implementation of the Protocol between Northern Ireland and EU Member States.

For European goods shipping between Northern Ireland and an EU Port via any Irish port (including Belfast directly), there will be no new paperwork required; no tariffs, quotas or checks on rules of origin; nor any barriers to movement within the EU Single Market for goods in free circulation.



In brief...

- You can continue to ship goods of European origin to and from Northern Ireland via the port of Belfast on Eucon services with no additional documents or requirements.
- You can continue to ship goods of European origin to and from Northern Ireland via ports in the Republic of Ireland on Eucon services with no additional documents or requirements.
- You can continue to ship goods of European origin on Eucon services with multi drops or collections in the jurisdictions of both the South and North of Ireland with no additional documents or requirements.

For more information on the Protocol, please refer to the below official UK Government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/moving-goods-under-the-northern-ireland-protocol/moving-goods-under-the-northern-ireland-protocol-introduction#northern-ireland-tofrom-the-eu>

The challenge for importers and exporters on the island of Ireland shipping to and from Europe is now focused on potential disruptions to their supply chain on products transiting via the UK as a landbridge option.

As a direct service to Europe, we identified the potential risks at an early stage being mainly capacity, equipment and possible extra regulatory documentation. As outlined above, we have pro-actively addressed the areas under our control. In conjunction with the terms of the Protocol, we believe we are ready to serve our clients best interest in 2021.

We continue to monitor the developments in the negotiations between the EU and UK officials over the coming days and will adapt our services for any late adjustments.

Yours sincerely,

Eucon Shipping & Transport Ltd.

