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Authorisation instructions

Transit, authorised consignor

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Instructions for an authorised consignor

An authorised consignor is a company that has been granted an authorisation to use simplified procedure for Union transit. The company can start a T transit from any Customs-approved place in Finland. Goods need not be presented at Customs.

Obtaining an authorisation requires the following:

- The company uses the Union transit procedure regularly, and is established in the customs territory of the Union.
- The company has a valid comprehensive guarantee.
- The company has not committed any serious infringements of customs or tax legislation.
- The company has management system for maintaining information on transports.
- The person responsible for the company's customs matters has professional qualifications or practical skills related to the transit procedure.

Transit procedure started by an authorised consignor

An authorised consignor can initiate T transit procedures at all Customs-approved warehouses located in Finland. The list of warehouses is available on the Customs website:

<http://tulli.fi/en/e-services/search-and-query-services/warehouse-ids>.

The authorisation holder must submit a transit declaration before the transport of the goods begins. The authorisation holder receives an accompanying document from the Customs system for accompanying the goods to the customs office of destination or to the authorised consignee.

When the authorisation holder receives an acceptance notification (FI028A), from Customs' electronic transit system, this means that Customs has received the transit declaration message for processing. A new transit declaration message cannot be sent on the same goods to replace the previous transit declaration without permission from Customs.

Time limit set for the transit

The time limit within Finland is a maximum of three days and to an office of destination outside Finland, the time limit is a maximum of ten days. The current day is not part of the time limit, rather the first day is always the following day. The days taken into account are always Finnish weekdays. Therefore, weekends and public holidays are not included the time limit. For example, for a transit procedure within Finland that begins on a Friday, the time limit for the transit transport can be set to the following Wednesday. The time limit is therefore three days, during which the goods have to be presented at the destination.

Providing a longer time limit for transit is possible only for justified reasons. If the company provides a longer time limit, it must archive a written statement of reasons in the transport administration system.

Transit goods description

The goods description submitted must be the accurate trade name. Each trade name must be declared as a separate consignment. Generic descriptions such as “spare parts” or “electronics” must not be used. It is voluntary to provide trade names at the level of six digits. However, the trade name does not replace an accurate description of goods.

Identification of goods and sealing

Authorised consignors must always use seals as the primary means for identifying and verifying goods. The authorisation holder must register the quantity of the seals and IDs in the transit declaration, and affix the seals to the cargo space no later than when the goods have been released for the transit procedure. In such cases, you can replace seals by giving a sufficiently precise and detailed description of goods to facilitate their identification. A goods description entails the quantity and nature of the goods, as well as special characteristics such as serial numbers. Sealing goods does not remove the obligation to provide a detailed goods description.

Under “Seal information” in your transit declaration, you can only indicate an authorisation holder’s own seals that Customs has approved. Your transit declaration must include the entire ID of the special design seal of an authorisation holder, that is, the EORI number of the authorisation holder and the individual seal ID number. When necessary, you can indicate other commercial seals under “Additional information” in your transit declaration.

Authorisation to use seals of a special type

Use of seals of a special type is subject to separate permission. The seals must meet ISO standard 17712:2013 or the requirements laid down in article 301(1) of the Implementing Act of the Union Customs Code. Authorisation for using seals is also applied for with the Customs Authorisation Centre. The seals must have the following markings:

- EORI number (for example: FI1234567-8)
- unique identifier for the seal.

Transporting goods placed under the transit procedure

Transporting commercial goods as an authorised consignor can only take place by truck or in a van when the goods exit the Union under the transit procedure via Finland to a non-EEA country. If you wish to transit goods by passenger car, the transit procedure must be initiated at the customs office of departure under a standard procedure.

Cancelling a transit

Transit declarations that have not received an acceptance notification from Customs must be cancelled if the transit of the goods has already been initiated under a fallback procedure.

Fallback procedure

There are separate instructions on fallback procedures: <https://tulli.fi/en/about-e-services/fallback-procedures>.

More information: yritysneuvonta(at)tulli.fi