



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

EU to GB Groupage & Mixed Loads consignments of Animal Products

Policy Options v.6 (intro ext.)

28 June 2021



Definitions

Consignment: A number of animals or quantity of goods covered by the same official certificate, official attestation or any other document, conveyed by the same means of transport and coming from the same territory or third country. Article 3 of OCR 2017/625*

‘**Groupage**’ is not a legally recognised term but rather a word industry uses to define many different things, including grouping of consignments for export onto a single lorry. Groupage, within this document, is defined as the commercial grouping of multiple consignments within a single sealed trailer or container.

Mixed consignment: a single consignment containing a mixture of different products of the same commodity type (single EHC), for example, a consignment of “composite products” containing pizzas, quiches and sandwiches all covered by the same health certificate.

Mixed load: a lorry/container containing multiple consignments (multiple EHCs). This includes both multiple consignments of SPS interest and lorries carrying both SPS and non-SPS consignments. However, in practice, importers will likely want to avoid mixing both SPS and non-SPS goods to prevent the SPS checks at the BCP, delaying the non-SPS commodities from clearing import checks.

Official (veterinary) Seal: An official seal applies if a seal is affixed to the container, truck or rail wagon under the supervision of the competent authority issuing the certificate.**

**See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-complete-a-health-certificate-for-imports-to-great-britain/how-to-complete-a-health-certificate-for-imports-to-great-britain> *See <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2017/625/contents>

Context

1. Introduction of SPS import controls on animal products has implications for existing models of EU to GB imports of groupage and mixed load consignments.
2. In conjunction with DAERA, Defra has *developed a number of models for GB to NI groupage*, and we are *exploring options for movements of goods from the EU in to GB*.*
3. As part of this process, we are looking to *determine which possible models may help to facilitate the movement of these goods in to GB*, while still providing the *biosecurity and public health guarantees* we expect, and that *are compliant with other elements of the wider GB import regime*.
4. We are working closely with *key stakeholders to determine and test suitable options*, where possible, with enough time to communicate the requirements *ahead of the introduction of import controls*.

*<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/daera-guidance-collection-and-movement-sps-goods-great-britain-northern-ireland-through-groupage>

Main models under consideration

- A. Consolidation Hub / Single Lorry Seal
- B. Sequential / Single Lorry Seal
- C. Linear / Multiple Pallet-Level Seals
- D. Hybrid or Other (as per workstream input)

Assumed shared elements between models

Pre arrival

- Sealing of a consignment under official supervision (i.e., by a CO)
- Certification of the consignment at container or 'pallet(s) level'.
- IPAFFS pre-notification, alongside completion of mandatory fields in individual EHCs.

GB BCP

- Consignments presented to BCP for an identity inspection, or a risk based physical inspection *should* they be selected.

A. Consolidation Hub / Single Lorry Seal

- Different consignments brought together at a single approved premises / “consolidation hub”.
- At final point of collection the certifier issues relevant certification(s) and can therefore include a seal number for the final lorry on EHCs for relevant animal products.

Preparation



At each collection point



At final collection point



Leaving EU



Crossing



Arriving in GB BCP



At Destination(s)



1. Each EU exporter is responsible for ensuring their consignment meets relevant GB import requirements – GOV.UK (1.0)

2. Haulier must ensure the final collection point is an approved exporting establishment for the relevant commodity type and product

3. Each EU exporter prepares consignment for export, and ensures any supporting information that is required for the final EHCs at the consolidation hub is provided .

4. Repeated at each pick-up point by individual EU exporter

5. Each of the consignments from the multiple pick-ups are inspected and certified by OV/CO.

6. The OV/CO issues individual certification(s) for each consignment and can therefore include a seal number for the final lorry on EHCs for relevant animal products

7. The PRFTL* must ensure they are registered on IPAFFS for the purposes of completing the pre-notification for each of the consignments collected in the load

8. Haulier completes customs procedures per HMRC requirements

9. GB authorities undertake Doc checks use seal on load as ID check for POAO consignments if selected

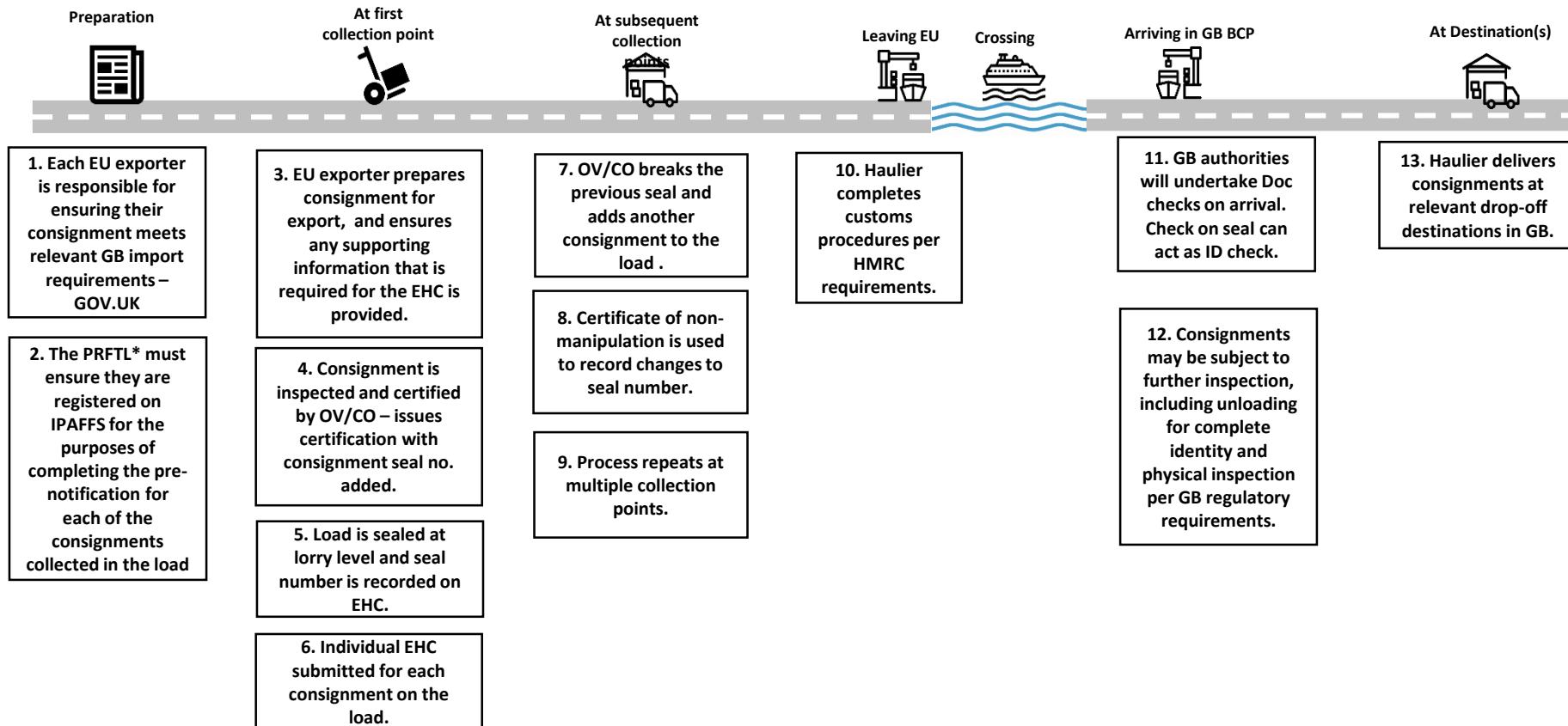
10. Consignments may be subject to further inspection, including unloading for complete identity and physical inspection per GB regulatory requirements

11. Haulier delivers consignments at relevant drop-off destinations in GB

*The person responsible for the load

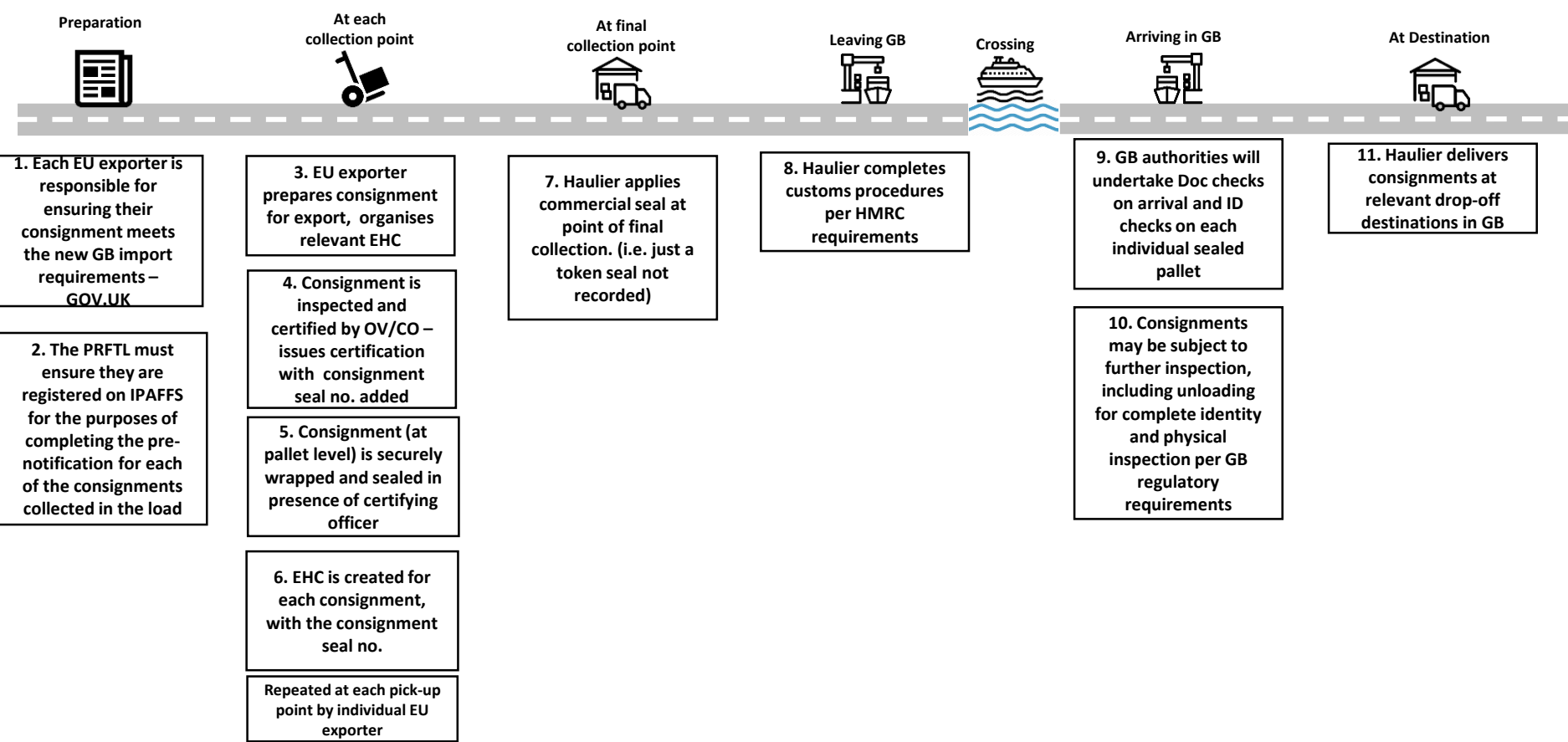
B. Sequential / Single Lorry Seal

- Designed to facilitate pick-ups from multiple sites, with certification at those sites, with a seal applied to the overall load at different pickups, removed and replaced at each pickup.
- Reliant upon certificate of non-manipulation proposed by Defra to EU Commission and accepted for use.



C. Linear / Multiple Pallet-Level Seals

- Very similar to model B, aside from the fact that instead of an official seal being applied by the certifying officer to each load at each collection point, is reliant on pallet-level sealing – either by or in the presence of the certifying officer – and then an overall seal being applied by the haulier (as opposed to a certifying officer).



*The person responsible for the load