



**An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

INFORMATION NOTE

Requirements for the import of timber and/or timber products covered by the EU Timber Regulation to and from Ireland and the UK post-Brexit.

The United Kingdom (UK) will leave the European Union (EU) and become a Third Country (i.e. a non EU member State) when the UK leaves the EU.

Currently, those who import timber and/or timber products covered by the EU Timber Regulation from the UK to Ireland may be determined to be ‘Traders’ as defined in Article 2(d) of Regulation (EU) No 995/2010. Traders are obliged to be able to identify those who have supplied the timber and timber products and, where applicable, to whom they have supplied timber and timber products.

Those that place timber or timber products covered by the EU Timber Regulation onto the EU market for the first time are determined to be ‘Operators’ as defined in Article 2(c) of Regulation (EU) No 995/2010. When the UK leaves the EU, any person or legal entity that imports such commodities from the UK and subsequently places them on the EU market for the first time will be determined to be an Operator. The obligations on Operators differ from those of a Trader. An Operator is prohibited from placing illegally harvested timber or timber products derived from such timber on the market. An Operator is required to have a Due Diligence System in place and must exercise due diligence when placing timber or timber products on the EU market. The Due Diligence System used by the Operator must be maintained and regularly evaluated.

After the UK leaves the EU, companies currently acting as ‘Monitoring Organisations’ (described in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 995/2010) that remain headquartered in the UK will no longer be recognised as such in the context of the EU Timber Regulation. Operators using Due Diligence Systems established by such organisations would therefore assume full responsibility for the system they implement including its maintenance and evaluation.

The UK Government has said that they will implement their own UK Timber Regulation, having the same requirements as the EU Timber Regulation. In this situation, Irish exporters may be subject to due diligence measures applied by their UK customers.

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