



# BREXIT

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On Friday, 31 January 2019 the UK officially left the European Union (EU) and is now in a transition period which will end on 31 December, 2020. During this period the UK remains in both the EU customs union and single market, and the current rules on trade, travel, and business for the UK and EU continue to apply.

From 1 January 2021, new rules and procedures come into effect for the movement of goods into and out of the remaining 27 EU countries and the UK. The UK Government is still in trade negotiations with the EU to decide the future terms of their trading relationship – e.g. duties, quotas, etc. If no agreement is reached, the rules set out by the World Trade Organisation (WTO) will apply.

## What is CPC Doing?

Until 31 December 2020 there will be no change for our customers, suppliers and business partners. We are now preparing for the end of the transition period. We have a cross-functional taskforce in place with representation from all areas of our organisation that may be impacted by Brexit.

As no trade deal has been agreed, our preparations are based on the latest information published by the UK and EU authorities. Nevertheless, our aim is consistent, we want to ensure that there is the minimum impact to you both in terms of the service we provide and the way we transact. Extensive plans have been developed and actions are being taken to ensure readiness for the 1st January 2021.

## Minimising impacts on our delivery times.

We are working closely with our carriers to secure capacity on import routes into the EU and minimise impact on delivery times so that we can maintain our existing delivery proposition. However, there may be a short period immediately after 1 January when some delays are experienced as everyone adjusts to the changes in procedures for the movement of goods. We have prepared our business to be ready to comply with the import and export procedures due to be introduced as far as they have been announced by the UK and EU authorities.

Rest assured we are doing our utmost to find the least disruptive and most cost effective solutions for our suppliers and business partners, as well as our customers receiving goods from our distribution centre in the UK.

Specifically we have increased our UK stock holding, especially on faster moving lines, by up to 50% and we are working with our local suppliers and international freight forwarders to provide further protection.

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