



Is your business Brexit ready?

Since Ireland joined the EU Single Market, we have availed of the benefits that membership brings including the ease of trading in goods and services with our nearest neighbour- the United Kingdom (UK).

As the UK prepares to leave the EU, we have to prepare for this transition. One of the outcomes that could materialise is that over time the UK will be designated a "third country" and as such trade in goods and service between the UK and the EU will be affected. It will have an impact not only on the goods exported from Ireland but also imported goods that come into Ireland from the UK.

Below you will find some useful information on the changes in trading standards that will likely take place to both product and services post-Brexit.

What are the implications for construction standards?

In this increasingly globalised world, international trade will be impacted less and less by national standards. The UK standards body foresee no change in their current practice as they will continue to align themselves to adopting and amending European (Cen/CENELEC) and ISO standards. At this point in time, technical standards documents such as cement to EN 197/1 or quality to ISO 9001, the documents will remain the same post Brexit.

What are the implications for construction certification?

Products Certification



- Post-Brexit, UK Notified Bodies will lose their status as EU Notified Bodies and will be removed from the EU Commission's information system on notified organisations (NANDO database)
- If you or one of your product suppliers rely on a British Notified Body for certification of conformity to support your product declaration for 'CE' marking purposes, you will need to obtain alternatives (EU Commission 2018).

- The 'Nando' EU commission web site provides a listing of all current European wide Notified Bodies.
- If you currently 'CE' mark your product under existing EU rules, you will be required to continue to do so post Brexit.
- While 'CE' marking for products may no longer be a legal requirement in the UK post Brexit, it is likely that the UK market will still require evidence of conformity of products to existing agreed standards.
- Existing EU requirements will continue to apply in Ireland.

For Irish importers who import from the UK

- If the UK is designated as a "third country", importers of UK products may be required to fulfil the legal role of "authorised representatives." This role was not required while the UK was an EU Member State. The duties of an "authorised representative" are set out in a number of harmonised regulations and directives.



- The 'Blue Guide' on the implementation of EU products rules 2016 provides further information on the implementation of the "New Legislative Framework" for the marketing of products.

Management System Certification

- It is expected that Certification to any of the International Standards Organisations Management Systems Standards such as ISO 9001 Quality, ISO 14001 Environment or ISO 45001 Occupational Health and Safety will not be directly affected by Brexit.
- For Irish businesses under European Accreditation, the status of British based certification to International Standards may in time be impacted.

NSAI are currently notified for a range of product types including the following:

Product Type	
1	Gypsum products
2	Structural timber products
3	Cements
4	Masonry and related products
5	Structural steel
6	Aggregates
7	Road construction products
8	Precast concrete products
9	Products related to concrete, mortar and grout
10	Pipes, tanks and ancillaries not in contact with water intended for human consumption



Looking for further information?

Contact the NSAI Brexit Unit at BrexitUnit@NSAI.ie for any queries on standards and certifications and your business post-Brexit. The EU Commission has produced a suite of official guidance on Brexit Preparedness for a wide range of sectors. Further information on Brexit and what it will mean to your business can also be found on the websites below.

Websites	
NSAI	https://www.nsaie/about/news/is-your-business-ready-for-brexit/
Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation	https://dbei.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/EU-Internal-Market/Brexit/
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	https://www.dfa.ie/brexit/
Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government	https://www.housing.gov.ie/housing/housing
Enterprise Ireland	https://www.prepareforbrexit.com/
InterTradeIreland	https://intertradeireland.com/brexit/
IBEC	http://www.ibec.ie/IBec/Brexit.nsf/vPages/Home~Brexit?OpenDocument
EU Commission NANDO website	http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/nando/
EU Commission Information on Brexit	https://ec.europa.eu/info/brexit_en
EU Commission Brexit Preparedness	https://ec.europa.eu/info/brexit/brexit-preparedness/preparedness-notices_en
'Blue Guide' on the implementation of EU product rules	https://ec.europa.eu/growth/content/%E2%80%98blue-guide%E2%80%99-implementation-eu-product-rules-0_en

