



Regulatory News Alerts & Updates

Regulatory Update: Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) shipments destined to Northern Ireland

July 8, 2025

Background

Import of Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) products into the United Kingdom (UK) are heavily regulated to protect the bio- security of the country. The majority of products of animal and plant origin must be accompanied by additional documentation, require pre-notification to authorities, and must undergo documentary and/ or physical inspections at designated Border Control Posts (BCP).

Shipments of animal and plant origin goods are prohibited on FedEx network, unless specific exceptions apply.

What has happened?

Due to operational and infrastructural constraints, imports of SPS goods that require documentary or physical inspections at BCP into Northern Ireland (NI) are suspended.

This applies to all shipments destined to NI, whether originating from Great Britain (GB) or any other country worldwide (except for direct movements of EU origin goods from the Republic of Ireland).

The exception process referred to in the previous FedEx Regulatory Alert - Northern Ireland – Windsor Framework and Imports of Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Products from Other Regions is no longer available for shipments destined to NI.

What does it mean to FedEx and customers?

Examples of commodities that require SPS documentation and/or inspection include but are not limited to:

- meat
- dairy
- other foodstuff and supplements containing products of animal origin
- enzymes

- blood
- semen
- reagents and
- seeds, bulbs, and plants for planting

Shipments containing SPS products that require documentary/physical inspections at BCP destined to NI will no longer be accepted at origin.

Shipments destined to NI can be identified by the postal code of destination beginning with 'BT' (e.g., BT1 1AA).

References

Sending SPS goods from GB to NI

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sending-parcels-from-great-britain-to-northern-ireland>

Northern Ireland – Windsor Framework and Imports of Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Products from Other Regions

https://www.fedex.com/content/dam/fedex/us-united-states/International/Northern_Ireland_Windsor_Framework_and_Imports_of_Sanitary_and_Phytosanitary_Products_from_Other_Regions.pdf