

Press release

DACHSER speeds up transport between UK and the EU

New customs service Smart Border Connect enables general cargo transit times comparable to those before Brexit

Kempton, July 18, 2024 – With its new customs service Smart Border Connect, the logistics provider DACHSER is giving British exporters smoother access to the EU market. The intelligent logistics solution simplifies and speeds up customs clearance and thus reduces export costs.

In 2023, the DACHSER European Logistics network alone transported more than 64 million shipments within Europe - without domestic market borders, which meant no customs clearance and none of the considerable administrative and regulatory expense that goes with it. For EU member countries, seamless groupage logistics throughout Europe sounds like the most natural thing in the world. However, since the UK's exit from the EU four years ago, this is no longer the case. A major challenge for which DACHSER UK has now developed its own solution: Smart Border Connect. "Smart Border Connect provides a framework for DACHSER to transport goods on behalf of UK customers mostly via the French border and on to the rest of Europe—quickly, reliably, and smoothly while also handling all matters relating to customs, taxes and duties. This is a great benefit for UK exporters and helps them to maintain their competitiveness against their European competitors," comments Mark Rollinson, Managing Director of DACHSER UK.

Preclearance to minimize transit time

The two different Smart Border Connect service options - Connect40 and Connect42 - are based on the use of the delivered duty paid (DDP) Incoterms. Since DDP makes the sender responsible for customs clearance duties and VAT, the customer no longer has to pay to receive the shipment. The goods can then be delivered in free circulation just like a domestic shipment and seamlessly integrated into DACHSER's European network with its connections to all EU countries—with no increase in transit time or administrative effort. The services not only ensure daily departures from every corner of the UK, but also a fast connection to all EU destinations.

"Smart Border Connect is a tailored solution that DACHSER developed to help UK exporters minimize the effects of Brexit for their EU customers," says Alexander Tonn, COO Road Logistics. "Thanks to preclearance, they can now offer their European target markets transit times similar to the pre-Brexit era." "Since we introduced Smart Border Connect, we've experienced a surge in demand from existing and new customers alike. Many have decided to adopt DDP Incoterms for their shipments in order to benefit from DACHSER's transit times, which are the shortest on the market," adds Mark Cosgrove, Sales and Commercial Manager for the UK and Ireland.

According to Alexander Tonn, "Smart Border Connect is not only of interest for the UK, but to third countries as well—for instance, to integrate additional non-EU countries like Switzerland and Norway." It's going to get really exciting when DACHSER integrates its European Logistics and Air & Sea Logistics business fields even more closely with a view to offering a global door-to-door groupage solution. "With Smart Border Connect in the toolbox, this knowledge has the potential to bring old and new growth markets around the world closer together and make them more efficient," predicts Tonn.

More information about Smart Border Connect can be found in the film: [LINK](#)

About DACHSER:

DACHSER, a family-owned company headquartered in Kempten, Germany, provides transport logistics, warehousing, and customized services in two business fields: DACHSER Air & Sea Logistics and DACHSER Road Logistics. The latter consists of two business lines: DACHSER European Logistics and DACHSER Food Logistics. Comprehensive contract logistics services and industry-specific solutions round out the company's range. A seamless shipping network—both in Europe and overseas—and fully integrated IT systems ensure intelligent logistics solutions worldwide.

Thanks to some 34,000 employees at 382 locations all over the globe, DACHSER generated consolidated net revenue of approximately EUR 7.1 billion in 2023. The same year, the logistics provider handled a total of 77.4 million shipments weighing 40.0 million metric tons. Country organizations represent DACHSER in 43 countries. For more information about DACHSER, please visit dachser.com

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