

# **EORI NUMBER - Explained**

**E**conomic **O**perator **R**egistration and **I**dentification. Known as an **EORI** number.

## **What is an EORI number and who needs one.**

An EORI number must be declared by all businesses, traders or individuals involved in the import/export of goods by them or on their behalf into or out of the European Community.

The EORI number is required even where the import/export is on an occasional basis. For example, if the business, trader, partnership or individual occasionally buys items for their business or trade from outside the EU such as machinery or equipment, goods for exhibition, samples, office supplies, etc. Even though their business is not usually involved in importing or exporting, an Economic Operator Registration and Identification number ( EORI number ) is required.

All business, traders or individuals including partnerships require an Economic Operator Registration Identification ( EORI number ) regardless of whether they are VAT registered or not.

As an EORI numbers must be provided by the Airline, Courier, Haulier or Vessel Operator to the Customs authorities on arrival and departure of all goods entering and leaving the Customs territory of the European Community an EORI number is not optional but a necessary requirement.

Application for an EORI number should be made in good time to allow the validation and smooth transit of goods as high carrier storage charges will be incurred whilst the Customs EORI team process applications.

Applying for an EORI Number is FREE and can only be made directly by the Business, trader or individual. ( or their / his or her accountant ). A freight agent / Customs Clearance agent is not allowed to apply for an EORI number on behalf of the importer/exporter.

A good FREE site to obtain the correct links to the EORI application pages on HMRC is [www.eorinumber.com](http://www.eorinumber.com)

For Customs Clearance and general advice on obtaining an EORI please contact :

**Yes 2 Ship Ltd. Tel 0208 754 9000. Email [admin@yes2ship.com](mailto:admin@yes2ship.com)  
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