



Common Errors on Certificates of Origin

1 . No country mentioned in Box 1

United Kingdom (in full) should always appear at the end of the UK exporters address.

2 . Incorrect designation of country of origin

For UK Origin goods the correct wording is 'European Community – United Kingdom'

For shipment comprising of UK origin goods and goods originating in other EU Countries, add the names of the other EU countries after United Kingdom

Example: *European Community – United Kingdom, Germany*

For goods manufactured in EU and non-EU countries, list the EU countries first before adding 'and' followed by the non EU countries

Example: *European Community – United Kingdom, Germany and China, Thailand*

3 . Failure to declare marks and numbers

This refers to the actual wording or labels stencilled to the outside of the packages being shipped. If you usually just show your customers address then simply state 'fully addressed' in the marks and numbers box.

For containerised goods, the container number can be shown.

For goods shipped without marks – 'Unmarked' should be shown.

4 . Failure to declare packaging details

This relates to the number of cartons, crates, boxes, pallets, bales, and rolls etc. that comprise the consignment.

For goods shipped in bulk, 'In bulk' should be used. For goods shipped loose or unpacked, the words 'Loose' or 'Unpacked' should be used.

5 . Poor goods description

DON'T use descriptions that are too vague or generalised e.g. spare parts or brand names

DO describe your goods in sufficient details that clearly indicates the nature of the goods.

If you use 'As detailed in Invoice number xxxx' please make sure that you put the invoice date afterwards.

Description of goods must also be clear on your invoice

6. Missing Weights and measures

DO declare all weights and measures using the metric system. DON'T use the imperial system of weights and measures. Evidence of weight must be supplied with application

7 . Incorrect Origin declaration

Ensure you select the correct box on the reverse of the Certificate of Origin.

DON'T confuse "wholly obtained" and "manufactured" UK goods.

Wholly obtained goods is defined as UK raw materials or items produced from UK raw materials i.e. Vegetables, Minerals, Animals born and raised in the UK or products derived from them.

Manufactured goods are goods which confer United Kingdom origin because they have gone through a manufacturing process within the UK. The simplest test to apply is to check to see if the tariff used for the products being exported is different to the one for the materials used in the manufacturing process.

Non-UK origin goods must be supported by proof of origin i.e. Certificate of Origin from the country of supply or the manufacturer's commercial invoice.