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TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS NEWSFLASH

Fecc

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF
CHEMICAL DISTRIBUTORS

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Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

The impacts of the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic are evolving by the hour, and Logistics & Supply Chain Managers within the chemical distribution community need timely, accurate, and actionable information to assess and react to this fast-changing environment.

The best general overview on Transport & Logistics implications are provided on [COVID-19 Overview IRU](#) and [COVID-19 Measures ESC](#) - displaying comprehensive and, most importantly, permanently updated information. Furthermore, we refer to Fecc's newly created COVID-19 Web Corner [COVID-19 and distribution](#) as well as to a regularly updated dedicated section Transport & Logistics (Fecc Members Only), providing interactive maps and more detailed information.

In this context, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) have launched a worldwide survey to report challenges faced by the **private sector** from COVID-19: [COVID-19 ICC Survey](#).

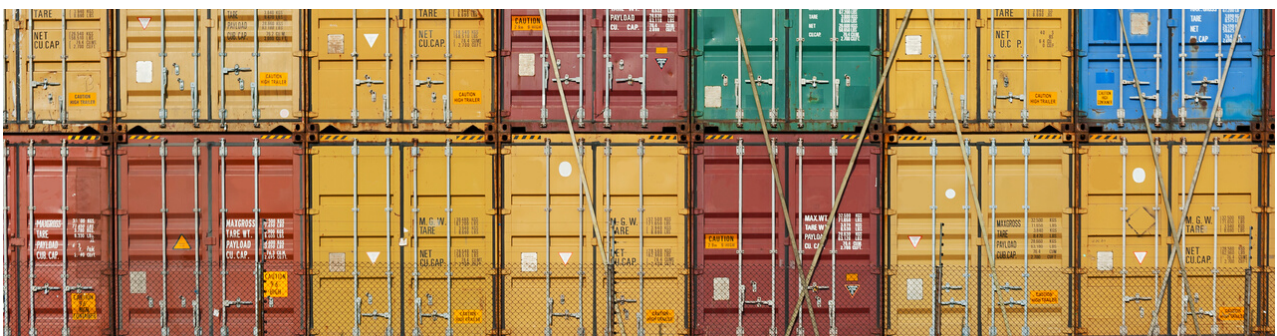
At company level, Resilience360 has developed its so-called [COVID-19 Supply Chain Resource Center](#) (including webinars) focussing on the pandemic's implications for global supply chains and resulting quarantines, company shutdowns, border closures, and other disruptions.

Pertinent insight how to cope with disruption, maintain supply chain visibility and learn more about the current Road Freight market can be found in the following three links:

- [COVID-19 SupplychainDive - Disruption](#)
According to Boston Consulting Group, a regional approach helps supply chains weather trade disruption.
- [COVID-19 Supplychain Visibility](#)
This article offers interesting insights highlighting that transparency has not been a priority for various reasons, such as the fear of losing trade secrets, or the risk of sensitive data getting compromised. Though justified, transparency cannot be compromised – it is crucial to understand and reduce the impact of disruption on all in the ecosystem.
- [COVID-19 Road Freight Market](#)
In new research from Transport Intelligence (Ti), recently published, Ti's original forecast of 2.1% growth in Europe's road freight has had to be radically revised with the outbreak of Covid-19 and the subsequent lockdowns.

As far as ADR is concerned, European countries agree upon a **Derogation for Multilateral Agreement M327** concerning periodic or intermediate inspections of portable tanks and UN multiple-element gas containers (MEGCs) in accordance with 6.7.2.19.2, 6.7.3.15.2, 6.7.4.14.2 and 6.7.5.12.2 of ADR – for more information, please consult [M327 - Derogation](#).

All periodic or intermediate inspections of portable tanks and UN multiple-element gas containers the validity of which ends between 1 March 2020 and 1 August 2020 **remain valid until 31 August 2020**. Only Austria and France have not signed yet.



Changes in customs duties and import formalities

In case your company would like to know how to identify countries that change their customs duties and import formalities to facilitate the entry of certain products the [EU Market Access Database](#) is the most relevant EU source.

EU Council adopts new Rules on the Digitalization of freight transport information (eFTI)

On 7 April 2020, the EU Council adopted new rules which will make it easier for freight transport companies to provide information to authorities in digital form.

The new rules will create a uniform legal framework for the use of electronic freight transport information for all modes of transport. All relevant public authorities will be required to accept information provided electronically on certified platforms whenever companies choose to use such a format to provide information as proof of compliance with legislative requirements. However, companies will still be able to present the information in paper format if they prefer.

The outcome of the vote means that the Council has adopted its position at first reading. The legal act now needs to be adopted by the European Parliament at second reading before being published in the Official Journal.

The new regulation will enter into force 20 days after publication. The Commission will adopt the relevant technical specifications before the obligation for public authorities to accept information made available electronically comes into force.

These technical specifications are currently prepared by the **Digital Transport & Logistics Forum (DTLF)** and will be adopted through delegating and implementing acts.

It is expected that the obligation for public authorities to accept digital information will enter into force as from 2025. For more information, see document attached and here: [EU Council EFTI Adoption](#).

Overview of indicative timeline:

