

UK Certificates of Origin – Plain Paper Switch: **(FAQ's)**

1. What is plain paper printing?

- *Plain printing, as its name implies is where the entire certificate is printed on plain paper rather than just printing details on to a pre-printed form. Many countries now print UK Certificates of Origin this way including China, Belgium, Netherlands, Finland, and Singapore.*

2. Will this affect other documents such as EUR1's and Arab-British Certificates?

- *No. This change **only applies** to UK Certificates of Origin.*

3. Will the online system be adapted to allow for this change?

- *Yes. All applications for a UK Certificate of Origin will have to be done online.*

4. What format will the UK Certificates of Origin be received in?

- *You will be able to print UK Certificates of Origin from the system as picture file or save it as a pdf.*

5. What happens if the document is printed in black and white?

- *The UK Certificates of Origin **must be printed in colour** otherwise it is likely to be refused by customs authorities. It is written in the international conventions controlling Certificates of Origin that they be in colour.*

6. Do I need special paper to print the UK Certificates of Origin?

- *No. Standard quality copier paper is acceptable.*

7. Will these documents be accepted by all countries?

- *Yes. The British Chambers of Commerce have notified all relevant authorities if the change. **Over 40 % of Certificate of Origin** issued worldwide are now done this way.*

8. What happens if the country concerned requires a wet stamp?

- *Where countries require a wet stamp, the Chamber will print and wet stamp the document for you using the ecert standard method.*

9. Can we still raise more than one original UK Certificate of Origin if needed?

- *Yes. It will now be easier to do this as the certificate number will not need to be changed on the additional originals.*

10. Will the UK Certificate of Origin still have unique numbers?

- *Yes. Each Chamber will have their own two letter prefix followed by a seven-digit unique number.*

11. If a certificate has been issued before the 1st April and the good do not arrive until after will this still be valid?

- *Yes. All UK Certificate of Origin issued before the 1st April will remain valid and will be accepted by customs authorities.*

12. Will customs authorities etc still be able to use the QR code and the ICC verification website to check my UK Certificates of Origin?

- *Yes*

13. Can we still make amendment to documents?

- *From the 1st of April it will **not be possible to amend** UK Certificate of Origin by hand as they will not match the online version.*

14. Can we still have yellow copy documents?

- *Yes, there will be an option to download the yellow copy if required, however the copy is to be printed on plain paper and in black and white print.*

15. I currently use the UK Certificate of Origin form for Egyptian legalisation. How will these changes affect my application?

- *You will apply as normal via the ecert standard method and we will print the application, wet stamp, and sign and forward on to the Egyptian-British Chamber of Commerce for processing.*

16. What happens if I accidentally print onto a UK Certificate of Origin blank form?

- *This will **not be accepted** by overseas Customs, and you will need to apply again ensuring you add the “replacement” statement in the remarks box.*

17. If I have remaining unused UK Certificates of Origin, would they need returning/destroying?

- *Yes. Please contact the chamber at international@lincs-chamber.co.uk for further details*

18. Sometimes we cannot upload evidence to the system as the files are large and have to send by email - can this continue?

- *Yes. At present this will still be acceptable but may change on the future.*

19. Can other documents such as invoices be stamped this way?

- *Yes. This is currently available via the online systems and will not change.*

20. Do I need to let my colleagues know who arrange Letter of Credit applications for my company?

- *Yes, we advise that you inform all colleagues who are involved in international activities on behalf of your company.*