



DAERA authorised Private Veterinary Practitioner:

Third Country EHC Crown Gold Removal –

Commencement of Public Beta Phase - “New Countries Added”

Bulletin: aPVP_01/22

Issued: 07 January 2022

Audience: authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners (aPVPs)

Subject: Improved Digital Security Measures for Export Health Certificates Printed on Crown Vellum (Gold) Watermarked Paper

Purpose

1. To update aPVPs on the further roll out of new digital security measures being introduced for Export Health Certificates (EHC) to replace existing Crown Vellum (Gold) watermarked security paper.

Background

2. [Trade Exports Bulletin 02/21](#) provided details of a planned Private Beta to test new digital security measures with certain Third Country Importing Competent Authorities.
3. Testing was undertaken with a view to replacing EHCs issued from the United Kingdom to third countries which are normally issued using Crown Vellum watermarked security paper to provide anti-fraud assurances of the authenticity of UK certification.
4. A successful period of Private Beta operation has now been completed, with DEFRA and APHA having received largely positive feedback from the Competent Authorities in Australia, Hong Kong Japan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
5. DAERA also provided feedback received from importing Competent Authorities and Certifying Officers. Initial issues with the presentation of the EHCs containing the security features have been addressed and will continue to be monitored.
6. Implementation of the use of digital security measures as the business-as-usual process for issuing EHCs will now progress on a **phased approach**.
7. This feature (see **Annex 1** for example EHC) will continue to be applied to EHCs issued through DECOL, for the Third Countries whose Competent Authorities have been approached to adopt this.



8. The list of Third Countries this applies to can be found in **Annex 2**, which will be updated as implementation roll out moves forward. **Please note that from week commencing 10th January 2021 the digital security measures will be applied to EHCs for the additional Third Countries highlighted in orange in Annex 2.**
9. As part of the implementation plan, DAERA Trade Programme will update relevant EHCs produced by DECOL for each Third Country as they agree to the use of the new measures.
10. When a Third Country agrees to implement the use of the new digital security measures, EHCs will be printed on plain white paper with the new digital security features. If a white paper easement agreement was previously in place, the new measures will supersede that arrangement.
11. [DAERA Trade Exports Bulletin 06/21](#) provided guidance on printing procedures for the new digital security measures.
12. **All other** EHCs will continue to be:
 - Issued using white paper as a temporary measure (where agreements are in place);
 - Issued using Crown Vellum (Gold) watermarked security paper;
 - Issued on white paper where Crown Vellum watermarked Paper is not required e.g. EHCs for the European Union (EU).
13. DAERA will continue to respond to any correspondence from the Importing Competent Authority, if any queries are received regarding the authenticity of a white paper EHC. DAERA may contact Certifying Officers to complete authenticity checks should the need arise.

Further Information

- Any queries relating to the new digital security measures should be sent to: DAERATradeExports@daera-ni.gov.uk. Please include the words '**Dithered Watermarked EHC**' in the subject line of any enquiries.

Trade Certification & Standards Branch

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Annex 1

An example of an EHC including the new dithered watermark (for illustration purposes):





Annex 2

The list of Third Countries that have agreed to implement the new EHC digital security measures as a business-as usual procedure are:

Country	With effect from
Australia	27.05.2021
Hong Kong	27.05.2021
United Arab Emirates	14.06.2021
Japan	12.07.2021
Gibraltar	10.01.2022
Philippines	10.01.2022
Turkey	10.01.2022