

Brexit Statement

The United Kingdom is now expected to leave the European Union on or by 31st October 2019. It is possible that the UK may leave before this date if a deal acceptable to all parties can be agreed. However, if the UK chooses not to take part in the EU parliamentary elections in May 2019, and a deal has not been agreed by the time of those elections, it will be obliged to leave the EU on 1st June 2019 without a deal.

In light of the ongoing, and seemingly never-ending, uncertainty about the type and timing of Brexit, PennWhite will continue to assess and mitigate the potential impact of leaving the EU on our operations and customer service level:

Raw Material Supply

We have long established working relationships with our EU based suppliers and in many cases are one of their largest customers. We are therefore confident of their commitment to supplying PennWhite even in the event of a no-deal Brexit.

Storage Capacity

In order to store additional raw materials, we have increased our bulk storage capacity for raw materials by almost 40% by the installation of new external storage tanks and new racking with an additional 360 pallet spaces.

REACH

In the event of a no-deal Brexit, EU REACH registrations held by our EU and UK suppliers will be "valid" in the UK for 2 years from the date of Brexit, giving manufacturers time to obtain UK REACH registration. It is unknown if the EU will follow a similar policy.

Import Delay

In the event of a no-deal Brexit goods entering the UK from the EU via RoRo ferry will be "waved through" UK customs. Payment of duties will also be deferred under this plan. It is not known if EU ports will introduce a similar policy on goods leaving the EU.

Export Delay

PennWhite has registered for the Transitional Simplified Procedure (TSP) which aims to minimise delays at UK ports in the event of a no-deal Brexit. The custom policies of the receiving EU ports following no-deal have not yet been publicised.

Workforce

In the unlikely event of our small number of EU nationals choosing to return to their EU country of origin following Brexit, their absence would not be a significant constraint to our business activities.

Tariffs

PennWhite will operate in line with Government policy and applicable law following Brexit. We will take all reasonable steps to avoid price adjustments and are determined to remain highly competitive in the post Brexit domestic and export markets.

European Regulation

To facilitate the export of our products, either by ourselves or by our customers, to the EU, we will continue to observe and comply with relevant EU regulations following Brexit.