

Department for Rural Affairs

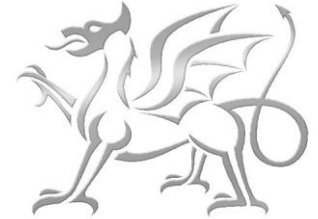
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WELFARE OF ANIMALS DURING TRANSPORT – GUIDANCE NOTES

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 1/2005 ON THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS DURING TRANSPORT AND RELATED OPERATIONS AND THE WELFARE OF ANIMALS (TRANSPORT) (WALES) ORDER 2007

ROAD VEHICLE and TRAILER and CONTAINER SPECIFICATION and GUIDANCE for CONSTRUCTION

POULTRY (Domestic fowl, ducks, geese, turkeys, guinea-fowl, quails, pheasants and partridges)

EU REGULATION 1/2005 (Article 3 and Annex I)

NOTES

- Vehicles, trailers and containers used on long journeys require prior inspection and approval by the Competent Authority (Articles 7 & 18). Approvals are generally valid for five years.
- Application of the derogation from the requirement for vehicle inspection and approval for journeys of up to 12 hours in order to reach their final destination in the UK, as permitted by Article 18(4), means vehicle inspection and approval is **not** required for vehicles carrying animals, including those carried in containers, on journeys of up to 12 hours in order to reach their final destination.
- The derogation does not extend to journeys exceeding 12 hours. Thus, vehicle approval certificates **are** required for such journeys.
- For journeys over eight hours **going outside the UK**, it is strongly recommended that transporters check with the authorities in the Member States that they intend to transport to or through to ascertain whether certificates of approval are required for this type of journey.
- In almost every case, journeys of over 12 hours will extend beyond the UK's borders. Therefore, when undertaking journeys of this length, it is strongly recommended that transporters check with the authorities in the Member

States both transiting and destination to ascertain whether certificates of approval are required for this type of journey.

- Long Journey is defined (Article 2 (m)) as one that exceeds 8 hours from when the first animal is moved (in the case of poultry this should be calculated from the time that the vehicle departs from the first place of loading).
- Vehicle is defined (Article 2 (z)) as a means of transport fitted with wheels which is propelled or towed.
- Poultry is not defined in the Regulation but is taken to include the following: domestic fowl, ducks, geese, turkeys, guinea-fowl, quails, pheasants and partridges.
- Regulation 1/2005's requirements in the table below are a précis of the legal wording in the Regulation which should always be consulted.
- It has been assumed that all adult poultry will be transported in purpose designed boxes crates or modules (containers) carried within a vehicle which (generally) will have been specially constructed for the work.
- Regulation does not distinguish between transport of 'day-old' and 'adult' poultry, but they require significantly different arrangements and this must be taken into account.
- Guidance for construction is given in order to assist with uniform and practical application of the Regulation.
- This guidance should be read in conjunction with the main guidance note (Part 1).

Part 1 – VEHICLES and TRAILERS

Item	Article 3 & Annex I	Reg. 1/2005 requirements	Guidance for Construction
General	Article 3	No person shall transport animals or cause animals to be transported in a way likely to cause injury or undue suffering to them.	General 'animal welfare protection' provision which also requires use of a suitable means of transport and loading and unloading facilities, and giving animals sufficient floor area and headroom.
Design Construction Maintenance	Article 3 (c) Ch.II 1.1 (a)	Designed, constructed, maintained and operated so as to avoid injury and suffering and ensure the safety of the animals.	Design to high standards-which will differ according to whether 'adult' or 'day-old' poultry are to be carried – using suitable materials and methods. Several different designs and systems are in common use. Maintain in good structural and mechanical condition. Repair or discard damaged crates.
Strength	Ch.II 1.1 (d)	Withstand stress of movements.	Floors, sides, partitions if any, roof, and fittings must be of sufficient strength to withstand load/unload, transport, and handling stresses. Crates supporting other crates must be robust and non collapsible.
Safety	Ch.II 1.1 (a) Ch.II 1.1 (d)	Ensure safety of animals. Prevent escape or falling.	Arrangements for loading, stowing and transport of poultry containers must ensure the safe containment of the birds.
Access	Ch.II 1.1 (f)	To animals for inspection and care.	It is recognised that bulk transport of poultry in containers makes it impossible to fully inspect and care for the birds during transport.
Roof	Ch.II 1.1 (b)	Protect from inclement weather, extreme temperatures, adverse changes in climatic conditions.	A solid roof, as such, is not specified but is considered necessary to protect poultry against any adverse weather which might be encountered.
Floor	Ch.II (g) Ch.II (h)	Anti-slip. Minimise leakage of urine and faeces.	Anti-slip provision is only required if poultry stand on the vehicle floor. Minimise leakage does not mean that the floor has to be 'watertight'.
Sides / Ends	Ch.II 1.1 (b)	Protect from inclement weather, extreme temperatures, adverse changes in climatic conditions.	Sufficiently enclosed to provide protection from the weather. Side sheeting for 'adult' poultry vehicles should be designed and arranged to enable adjustment to suit climatic variations. 'Day-old' poultry are likely to require a fully enclosed environment-controlled vehicle.
Ventilation	Ch.II 1.1 (e) Ch.III 2.6	Maintain appropriate air quality and quantity. Provide sufficient ventilation for number of animals and weather.	Sufficient ventilation for 'worst-case' situation – e.g. when vehicle is stationary in hot weather. Maintaining a uniform and appropriate environment in hot weather. Maintaining a uniform and appropriate environment within a loaded vehicle involves several factors which include container design and stowage. Specialist advice should be sought.

			Bulk transport of 'day-old' chicks in containers requires the vehicle to be fitted with a ventilation system which is capable of providing a minimum of 30 air changes per hour. The environment within the containers should be maintained within a temperature range of 15° - 25°C, at a relative humidity of 40% - 60%.
Container Stowing and Stacking	Ch.III 1.7 Ch.III 2.6	Limit urine and faeces falling onto birds below. Ensure stability, and that ventilation is not impeded.	Arrangements for stacking and stowing containers on the vehicle must result in a secure load which will not be displaced during transport. It may be necessary to stow and stack with space for ventilation and airflow between adjacent containers, depending on their design and climatic conditions.
Load/unload facilities	Ch.II 2.2	Carry suitable equipment to load and unload animals.	Any equipment used must be suitable for the purpose. It is recognised that special equipment or manual loading/unloading may be required for poultry in containers, and that this may only be available at the places of departure and destination.
Lighting	Ch.II 1.1 (i) Ch.III 1.6	For inspection and care during transport. During loading and unloading.	Portable lighting may be sufficient for inspection during transport. Lighting for loading and unloading need not be fitted to the vehicle, but must be provided during these operations.
Notice	Ch.II 2.1	Vehicle clearly and visibly marked to indicate the presence of live animals.	Vehicle is not required to be marked when carrying animals in containers, but the containers must be marked to indicate the presence of live animals. However, see guidance on containers where it is visually evident that they contain animals.
C & D	Ch.II 1.1 (c) Ch.III 1.3 (b)	Vehicle, equipment and load/unload facilities – able to be cleaned & disinfected.	Animal Health Rules may require cleansing and/or disinfection prior to loading animals, and after unloading them.
RO-RO use	Ch.II 3.2	Fitted with sufficient and adequate securing points. Vehicle must be secured to vessel to prevent displacement.	Only required if vehicle is to be carried on a RO-RO vessel. Securing points must be of adequate strength and suitable design to accept ship's equipment.

PART 2 – CONTAINERS

Item	Article 3 & Annex I	Reg. 1/2005 requirements	Guidance for Construction
General	Article 3	No person shall transport animals or cause animals to be transported in a way likely to cause injury or undue suffering to them.	General 'animal welfare protection' provision which also requires use of a suitable means of transport and loading and unloading facilities, and giving animals sufficient floor area and headroom.
Design Construction Maintenance	Article 3 (c) Ch.II 1.1 (a)	Designed, constructed, maintained and operated so as to avoid injury and suffering and ensure the safety of the animals.	Design to high standards using suitable materials and methods. Design must be appropriate for the age and size of poultry, and suit arrangements on the transporting vehicle. Several different designs and systems are in common use. Maintain in good structural condition.
Strength	Ch.II 1.1 (d)	Withstand stress of movements.	All parts must be of sufficient strength to 'contain' the birds to be carried, and to withstand load/unload, transport, and handling stresses. Must have sufficient strength to support containers stacked above.
Safety	Ch.II 1.1 (a) Ch.II (d)	Ensure safety of animals Prevent escape or falling.	Free of sharp edges and projections which could cause injury to birds. Limit/prevent protrusion of parts of birds through apertures. Secure and escape-proof.
Access	Ch.II 1.1 (f)	To animals for inspection and care.	It is recognised that bulk transport of poultry in containers makes it impossible to fully inspect and care for the birds during transport.
Roof / top	Ch.II 1.1 (b)	Protect from inclement weather, extreme temperatures, adverse changes in climatic conditions.	Must permit adequate ventilation, but be sufficiently enclosed to contain birds. Transporting vehicle should provide primary protection from the weather.
Floor	Ch.II 1.1 (g) Ch.II 1.1 (h) Ch.II 1.7 (a)	Anti slip surface. Minimise leakage of urine & faeces. Limit urine and faeces falling onto birds below.	Strong enough for weight of birds. Floor surface must be free of 'dangers' and should provide birds with sufficient grip for stability during transport. Minimise leakage of urine and faeces does not mean that the floor has to be 'watertight'.
Sides / ends	Ch.II 1.1 (b)	Protect from inclement weather, extreme temperatures, adverse changes in climatic conditions.	Must permit adequate ventilation, but be sufficiently enclosed to contain birds. Transporting vehicles should provide primary protection from the weather.
Partitions	Ch.II 1.4	Strong enough to withstand weight of birds. Fittings designed for quick and easy operation.	Partitions, if used, between compartments within container must be of sufficient height, depth and strength to separate individual or groups of birds. They may need to include apertures to enable ventilation through the container. They may form a fixed and rigid

			part of the container structure.
Ventilation	Ch.II 1.1 (e) Ch.III 2.6	Maintain appropriate air quality and quantity. Provide sufficient ventilation for number of animals and weather.	Sufficient ventilation for worst case' situation – e.g. when vehicle is stationary in hot weather. Maintaining a uniform and appropriate environment within a container involved several interdependent factors. Specialist advice should be sought. Bulk transport of 'day-old' chicks in containers requires the vehicle to be fitted with a ventilation system which is capable of providing a minimum of 30 air changes per hour. The environment within the containers should be maintained within a temperature range of 15° - 25°, at a relative humidity of 40% - 60%.
Stowing, stocking, securing	Ch.II 5.3 Ch.III 1.7 Ch.III 2.6	Securing points if container weights more than 50kg. Limit urine and faeces falling onto birds below. Ensure stability, and that ventilation is not impeded.	Arrangements for stacking and stowing containers on the vehicle must result in a secure load which will not be displaced during transport. It may be necessary to stow and stack with space for ventilation and airflow between adjacent containers, depending on their design.
Size / space/ internal height	Article 3 (g) Ch.II 1.2	Sufficient floor area and height appropriate for animals and journey. Enough height for adequate ventilation above animals standing naturally, without hindering their natural movement.	It is recognised that most poultry, other than day-old chicks, do not need height to stand erect during transport. Their safety and stability is best ensured when they squat and grip with their feet. But there must be sufficient space above the birds for airflow. Floor area – see 'Space allowances'.
Notice	Ch.II 5.1	Marked clearly and visibly to indicate 'Live animals' and 'Top of container'.	Each container must be marked, where the animal content is not visually self-evident. A pictograph will suffice.
C & D	Ch.II 1.1 (c)	Vehicle equipment (container) able to be cleaned & disinfected.	Animal Health Rules may require cleansing and/or disinfection prior to loading animals, and after loading them.
Space allowances	Ch.III 2.1 Ch.VII E	At least comply with figures in Chapter VII E <u>Day-old chicks</u> 21cm ² to 25cm ² per chick <u>Poultry other than day-old chicks</u> < 1.6kg - 180 to 200cm ² per kg of liveweight 1.6kg to <3.0kg – 160cm ² per kg 3.0kg to < 5.0kg – 115cm ² per kg >5.0kg - 105cm ² per kg	Minimum floor area is specified in m ² per bird for poultry in containers. But the Regulation allows variation in the figures by the following statement – These figures may vary depending not only on the weight and size of the birds but also on their physical condition, the meteorological conditions and the likely journey time.