



UKNATACO

UK National ATA Carnet Organisation



ATA Carnets – practical guide
to digital Carnets

ATA Carnet is an international customs document known as “passport for goods” which permits duty-free temporary admission of commercial samples, goods for trade fairs / exhibitions and professional equipment to over 81 countries and territories around the world.

United Kingdom started digitalising its ATA Carnet procedures in 2021 as part of the global initiative led by the International Chamber of Commerce and the World Customs Organisation. HMRC and UKNATACO are currently working on getting the UK ports ready for processing Carnets digitally.

This document provides practical information on how digital Carnets will work.

CONTENTS

1. WHEN WILL DIGITAL CARNETS GO LIVE	3
2. WHAT ARE ADVANTAGES OF DIGITAL CARNETS	3
3. HOW WILL DIGITAL CARNETS WORK	4
4. HOW DO I DOWNLOAD CARNET APP (WALLET) TO MY SMARTPHONE	4
5. HOW DO I DOWNLOAD DIGITAL CARNET TO MY WALLET	5
6. HOW DO I CREATE TRAVELS (DECLARATIONS) IN THE WALLET	5
7. CAN MY SHIPPER CREATE TRAVELS FOR ME	6
8. HOW DO I USE DIGITAL CARNET WHEN FLYING WITH MY GOODS	7
9. WHERE CAN I SEE DIGITAL TRANSACTIONS PROCESSED BY CUSTOMS	8
10. HOW CAN I TRIAL DIGITAL CARNETS	8
11. WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN I TEST DIGITAL CARNETS	9
12. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN DIGITAL CARNETS GO LIVE	9
13. DIGITAL CARNETS FOR FREIGHT FORWARDERS	11
14. WHERE CAN I GET FURTHER INFORMATION ON ATA CARNETS	11

I. WHEN WILL DIGITAL CARNETS GO LIVE

UK is currently in the preparation phase where HMRC and UKNATACO are working on getting the UK ports ready for processing Carnets digitally.

MAY
2022

UK first digital Carnet Transaction at London Heathrow

MARCH
2023

UK Issuing Network trained on digital Carnets paving the way for the National Pilot

OCTOBER
2023

UK trader completes the world's first ever round trip on a test Digital Carnet

2024 / 2025

HMRC Preparation Phase
(expansion of digital infrastructure to UK ports)

2026

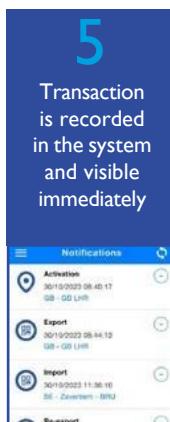
UK to start transitioning to digital Carnets

2. WHAT ARE ADVANTAGES OF DIGITAL CARNETS

- Digital Carnets are safer and more secure than paper documents
- Easier to use than paper Carnet
- Reduced queues at the border
- Reduced financial risks as the document cannot be lost
- Full visibility of where the goods are
- 24/7 worldwide support once it goes live
- Environmentally friendly

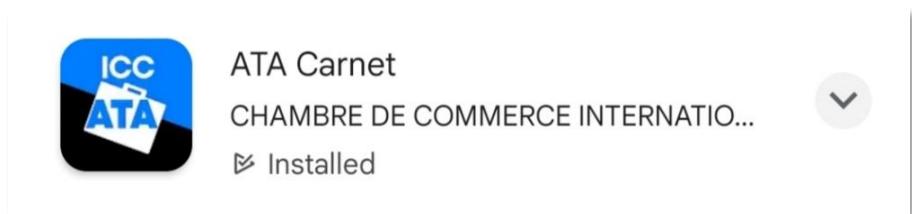
Moving to digital Carnets will ease the administrative burden of traditional paper Carnets and will save businesses that export their goods temporarily time and money, whilst also reducing risks and environmental impact.

3. HOW WILL DIGITAL CARNETS WORK



4. HOW DO I DOWNLOAD CARNET APP (WALLET) TO MY SMARTPHONE

The app can be downloaded from Google Play Store (android devices) or App Store (iPhone). Search for “ATA Carnet App” and the app will look like this:



Once you register the App on your smartphone, you'll be able to download digital Carnets to it and create Travels (digital Carnet declarations equivalent to completing a paper Carnet Voucher).

Further instructions on how to use the Carnet Wallet can be obtained here [PDF File](#) or [Video](#)

5. HOW DO I DOWNLOAD DIGITAL CARNET TO MY WALLET

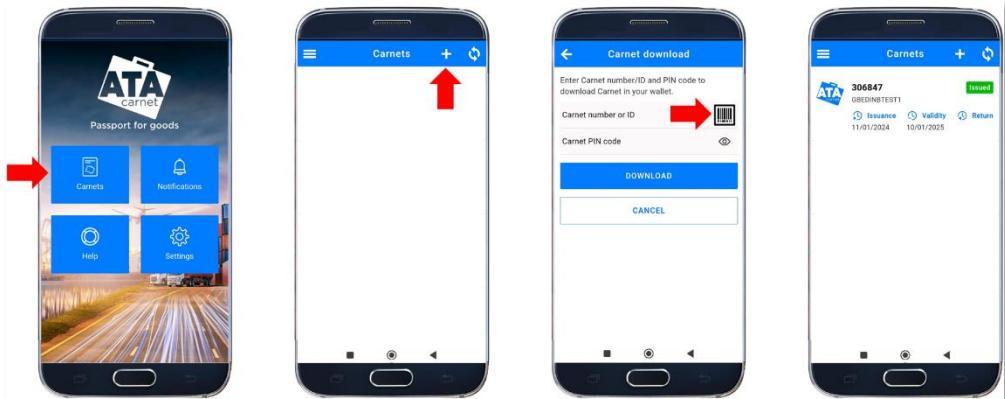
- In the issuing system, find the notification containing digital Carnet PIN and QR code and download the Carnet to the Wallet as follows:

1. Log into Carnet Wallet and click on Carnets

2. Click on +

3. Click on barcode to scan QR or type ID and PIN to download Carnet

4. The Carnet is now visible in the Carnets section



Deleting Carnets from the Wallet – once the Digital Carnet is no longer required, click on it for a couple of seconds and you'll get a pop-up asking you to confirm deletion.

6. HOW DO I CREATE TRAVELS (DECLARATIONS) IN THE WALLET

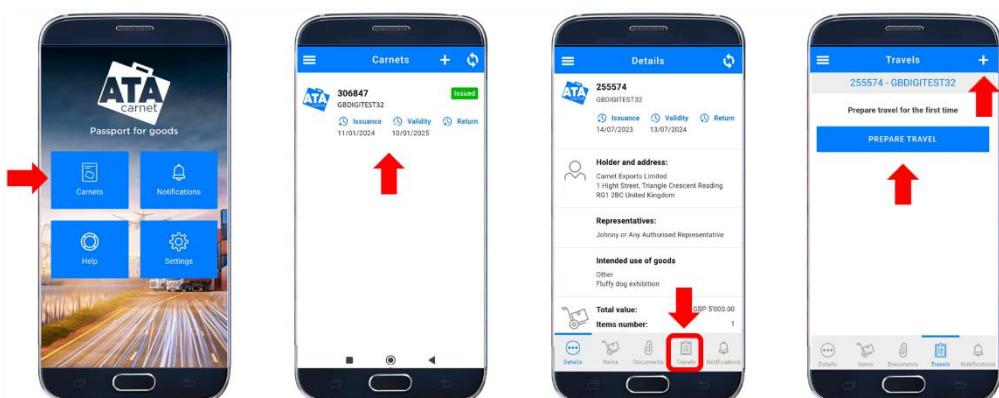
- Open your Carnet Wallet and take the following steps:

1. Click on "Carnets" icon in the Wallet

2. Click on the Carnet you wish to work on

3. Click on Travels

4. Click on Prepare Travel (or +)



- Complete all the required fields in order to prepare the Customs declaration:

Complete all the fields

Items can be added in three different ways

Click on Save to create the QR code

The image shows three screenshots of a mobile application interface:

- Left Screenshot:** "Prepare travel" screen. It shows travel details: "Departure/Destination: France trip 1/12/2023", "Departure/Destination: United Kingdom", "Country: France (European Union)", "Mode of transp.: Air", and "Extra details: Extra info: remarks, flight number, license plate, BA12345". There is a "Declared Items" section with a plus sign and a "SAVE" button at the bottom.
- Middle Screenshot:** "Select goods" screen. It shows a list of items: "Item 1: 1 GB, 0.62, 0.50 kg" and "Item 2: 2 GB, 0.62, 0.50 kg". It includes buttons for "UNSELECT ALL", "SELECT ALL", and "SELECT INDIVIDUAL ITEMS". A red arrow points from the "Declared Items" section of the first screenshot to this screen.
- Right Screenshot:** "Travels" screen. It shows a travel record: "255574 - GBDIGITEST32" with "From: United Kingdom" and "To: France (European Union) / Export / Import". It has "DELETE" and "EDIT" buttons. A red box highlights the "SAVE" button at the top right. A red arrow points from the "SELECT INDIVIDUAL ITEMS" section of the middle screenshot to this screen.

- Declaration is complete once the app creates a QR code

7. CAN MY SHIPPER CREATE TRAVELS FOR ME

There are two ways of handling Travels (declarations):

- I. Holder creates Travel and forwards it to the person using the Carnet - using this method ensures that agent can't make any changes or create declarations / Travels:

The image shows two screenshots of a mobile application interface for managing QR codes:

- Left Screenshot:** "Transactions" screen. It shows a QR code with a red box around its top right corner. Below it are transaction details: "Activation", "Transaction code: AJA7YDSDX7RBAUPL6", "Verification code", and "Cancellation code: EJAUSLATJVTAA6CE". A red arrow points from the "Activation" text to the QR code.
- Right Screenshot:** "Transactions" screen. It shows a QR code with a red box around its top right corner. Below it are transaction details: "Activation", "Transaction code: AJA7YDSDX7RBAUPL6", "Verification code", and "Cancellation code: EJAUSLATJVTAA6CE". A red arrow points from the "Activation" text to the QR code.

Text Labels:

- Select the correct QR code**
- Each transaction has its own QR code (Activation, Export, Import etc)**
- Scroll to required QR code by:**
 - clicking on the arrow or
 - by swiping right on the QR code
- QR code (declaration) can be forwarded to a driver or agent**
- Clicking on forward icon will provide various options (sending via email, WhatsApp, text etc)**
- QR code can also be printed as a backup**
- Ensure that you send a correct code for the intended transaction**

2. Holder sends the PIN or Carnet QR code from the issuing system to the agent to allow them to download digital Carnet to their Wallet. In this case the agent will have the full control of the Carnet and will be able to create Travels to any destination that the Carnet has been issued for. **Note** that the Carnet Holder remains responsible for customs charges even when the agent creates Travels.

8. HOW DO I USE DIGITAL CARNET WHEN FLYING WITH MY GOODS

On departure:

1. Find the Commercial Exports area before checking your goods in:



2. Use the Customs Enquiries phone to speak to the Customs if there is no officer present:



3. Open the appropriate QR Code and present to the Customs Officer:

- leaving UK = Exportation
- leaving foreign country = Re-exportation



Officer scans the QR Code and verifies the Information entered in the declaration

On arrival:

1. Collect your luggage and go to the Red Channel (Goods to Declare):



2. If Customs are not present, use the Customs Enquiries phone:



3. Open the appropriate QR Code and present to the Customs Officer

- arriving at destination = Importation
- arriving back to UK = Re-importation



Officer scans the QR Code and verifies the Information entered in the declaration

9. WHERE CAN I SEE DIGITAL TRANSACTIONS PROCESSED BY CUSTOMS

Transactions will be visible in the Notifications section of the Carnet Wallet and the issuing system:



10. HOW CAN I TRIAL DIGITAL CARNETS

Your issuing Chamber will need to enable you for digital Carnets in their issuing system. You can only use digital Carnets at the ports that are involved in the digital Carnet testing: Digital Carnet Pilot (uknataco.co.uk)

Note that paper Carnet remains the only legally acceptable form of an ATA Carnet until UK completes transitioning to digital Carnets (digital Carnets are currently issued for test purposes only). Paper Carnet must always be processed first!

11. WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN I TEST DIGITAL CARNETS

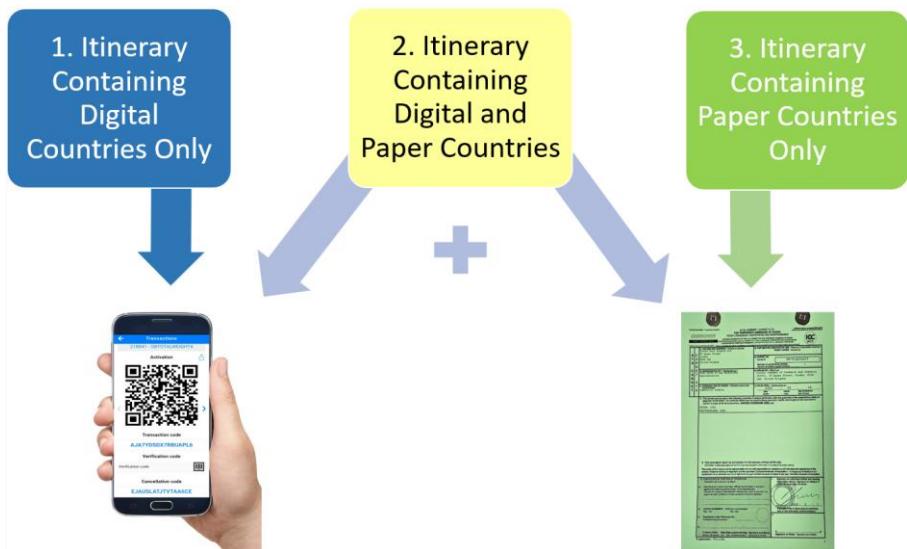
Digital Carnets are currently only issued for testing purposes and must be presented to Customs after the paper Carnet has been endorsed.

- Paper Carnet must be endorsed for all legs of the journey (always present the paper Carnet first and then the digital Carnet)
- Digital Carnet can only be used at the ports which process digital Carnets (see section 10)
- Digital Carnet transactions will be visible in your ATA Carnet App but will have no legal value
- Digital Carnets intended for testing at ports must be pre-notified to UKNATACO, at least three days before the travel, by emailing Carnet no, Date of Travel and Flight number to queries@uknataco.co.uk

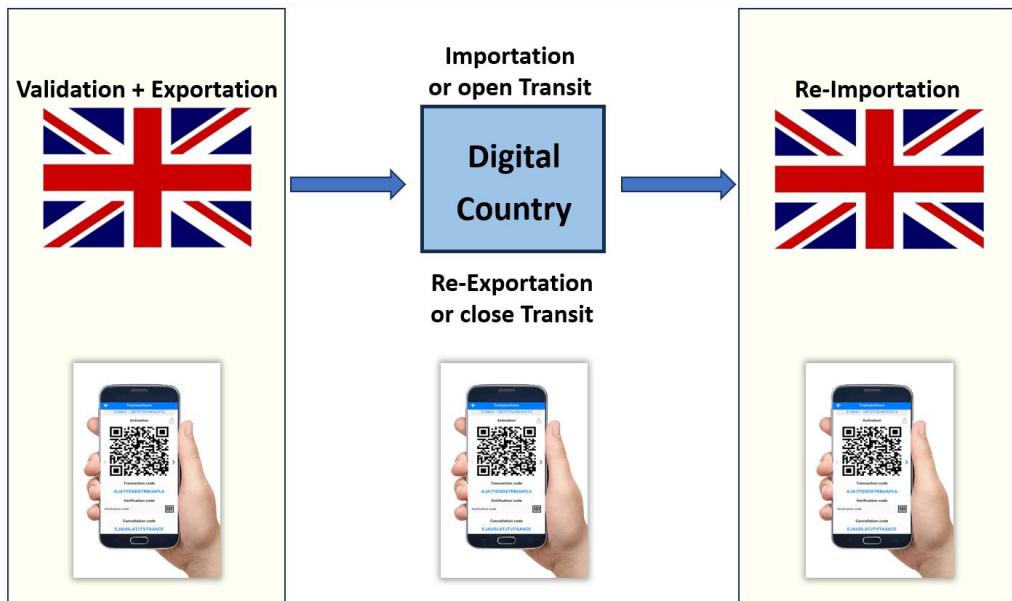
When using digital and paper Carnets in parallel, ensure that both Carnets are activated (validated) by HMRC on the first use and also on return to the UK

12. WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN DIGITAL CARNETS GO LIVE

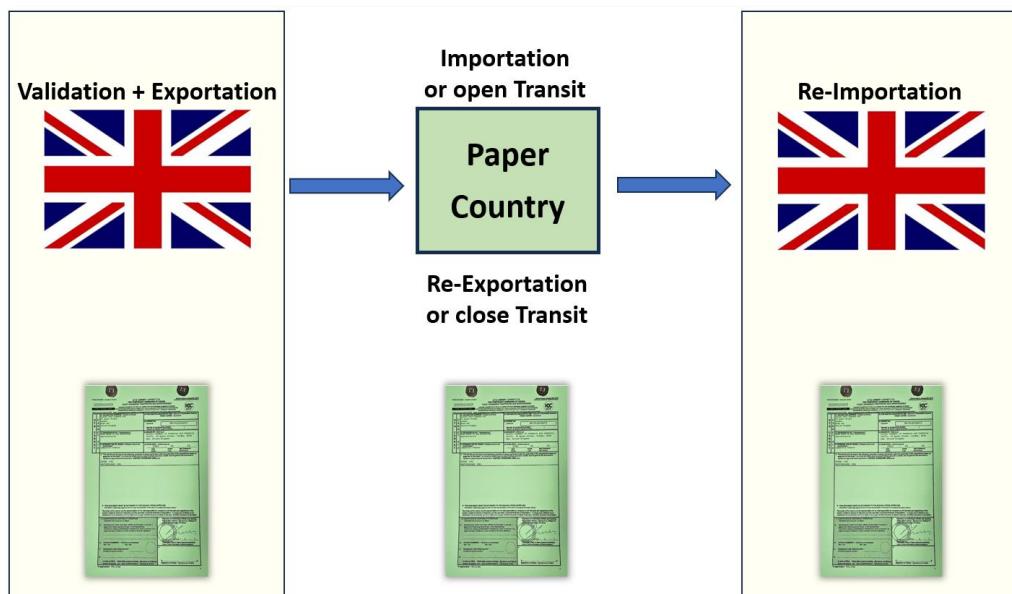
The type of Carnet issued will depend on whether the destination accepts digital Carnets (both digital and paper Carnets will be used for mixed itineraries)



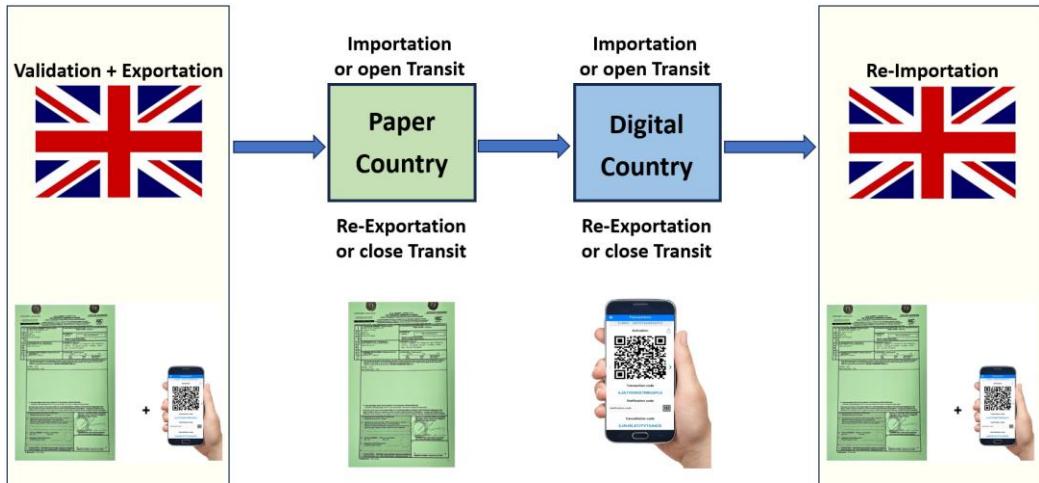
1. Itinerary involving digital countries only
 - The Holder will use the digital Carnet both in the UK and abroad:



2. Itinerary involving paper countries only
 - The Holder will use the paper Carnet both in the UK and abroad:



- Itinerary involving both digital and paper countries
- When both digital and paper countries are involved in the itinerary, UK Customs will have to process both Carnets on export from UK and return to UK (this will be required until all the Carnet countries have completed their transition to digital Carnets)
- Use paper Carnet in paper destinations (paper countries will be shown in Box P of the Front Cover) and digital Carnet in digital destinations



13. DIGITAL CARNETS FOR FREIGHT FORWARDERS

Freight Forwarders will use a desktop version of the Carnet Wallet (to be launched in Q4 2024). This will greatly enhance management of ATA Carnet shipments through:

- simplified management of multiple Carnets including creation of declarations and assigning Carnets to different drivers / agents
- Predeclaration facility to allow Customs to process Carnets remotely (cargo ports)

Forwarders are advised to test the **current** App to get familiar with digital functionality

14. WHERE CAN I GET FURTHER INFORMATION ON ATA CARNETS

[UKNATACO website](#)

[Digital Carnet FAQs for Carnet users and Issuing Chambers](#)

The background of the page features a large, abstract graphic composed of overlapping circles in various shades of blue and white. The circles are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement, with some circles appearing to overlap others. The overall effect is a modern and professional look.

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