



EORI (UK) LIMITED

A 360PAY COMPANY

Duty Deferment Account

(DDA)



What is a Duty Deferment account?

A Duty Deferment Account is an account granted by HMRC used by businesses to defer payment of customs duties, Import VAT and excise duties.

Instead of paying these charges immediately for each shipment, businesses can consolidate them into a single monthly payment. This system is particularly useful for companies with regular import activity, as it simplifies financial operations and improves efficiency.



Benefits of a DDA

Cash flow Management

By deferring duty payments, typically up to 30 days, businesses retain liquidity that would otherwise be tied up at the point of import.

This flexibility allows for a more strategic use of funds and supports operational resilience, especially during peak trading periods.

Benefits of a DDA

Quicker Customs Clearance



Utilising a DDA can significantly speed up customs clearance. Since HMRC has the assurance that duties will be paid, the pressure at the border is alleviated, allowing for quicker release of goods. This not only minimises delays but also enhances supply chain reliability, which is an essential factor for businesses that rely on timely deliveries.

By consolidating multiple payments into one monthly transaction, businesses can reduce bank fees and cut down on the time spent reconciling individual payments. Over time, these savings contribute to leaner financial operations and improved cost control.

Benefits of a DDA

Save on bank charges & admin costs





A DDA provides a predictable payment cycle, which greatly aids in budgeting and cash flow forecasting. Finance teams can plan with greater accuracy. However, it's important to manage the account responsibly, ensuring guarantees are in place and payments are made on time. Like any financial tool, it offers control but requires discipline.

Benefits of a DDA

Stronger financial control



Disadvantages to paying per shipment

Paying duties immediately ties up cash that could be used elsewhere in the business. It can also slow down customs clearance, as goods may be held until payment is confirmed. Plus, managing individual payments adds to the administrative workload.

Customs agents paying on your behalf



Customs agents can handle payments using their own deferment accounts or by arranging direct payments. While this can simplify the process, it often comes with additional fees and may reduce the importer's visibility and control over the financial side of the transaction. Businesses should weigh convenience against cost and control.

EORI (UK) provides this as a service for customers.