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FCL Import Customs Clearance -Charges & Additional Charges – 2026

The following charges apply to FCL import shipments handled by Aerona. Charges are dependent on the port, type of cargo, customs requirements and service requested. Not all charges will apply to every shipment. Any third-party charges, examinations, storage, demurrage or other exceptional costs incurred will be charged where applicable.

Our Standard customs clearance charges are £80-£85 plus the applicable port charge. There may be additional charges if the container is examined, delayed, stored, subject to demurrage, requires additional handling or if the shipping line or another third party raises charges. All potential additional charges are listed in our terms.

Standard FCL Clearance Charges

Service	Charge
Customs Clearance- General Cargo ***	£80.00
Customs Clearance – Dangerous Good/Reefer ***	£85.00
Agency ***	£55.00
DTI ***	£ 6.50
Sub-heading – additional commodity code **	£ 6.50 each
Deferment fee 3.75% (minimum £50) **	£50.00

Port Charges

Felixstowe	Southampton	Tilbury	LGW	Liverpool	Teesport	Grangemouth	Humber
£155.95	£165.75	£95	£165.75	£155.92	£85.69	£65.75	£65.75

Additional Charges – Where Applicable:

Additional charges may apply where required. Examples are listed below.

The following charges do not apply to every shipment and will only be charged where the relevant service, examination, delay or additional work occurs.

Shipping Line Landing Cost – These vary depending on the shipping line. All shipping line, storage and government charges are passed on at actual cost.

Additional Service	Charge
Handling for DG/ UN Label Cargo **	£25.00
X-Ray / Customs Examination **	£160.00
Lift-on / Lift-off***	£110.00 per container
Pin Release to Another Haulier/Agent **	£55.00
Hapag-Lloyd Pin Release **	£35.00
Handover of FCL to Third-Party Agent**	£95.00
CDS Cash Account Check**	£50.00
Vehicle Detention charge per Hour**	Cost + £12.50 per hour + VAT
Container Delivery ***	POA-Subject to Destination and Fuel Surcharge fee at the prevailing rate

VBS Vehicle Surcharge ***	£35.00-£45.00 +VAT, depending on port
Prepaid Container DAP Delivery Booking **	£100.00
Shipping Line Landing Charge ***	See shipping Line administration/Disbursement
Container Seal Replacement **	£6.50
Documentation Post to Third-Party Agency**	£20 Special delivery per document
Gas Check/ Door Examination cost **	Cost +£85.00
Environmental Agency Examination cost **	Cost +£85.00
Forestry Commission Examination/ cost**	Cost +£85.00
UKAT / CAP Goods **	Cost +£88.00
Other Government /Inspection cost**	Cost +£50-£100
Other Shipping and Third-Party cost **	Cost +£85.00

Shipping Line Landing Administration/ Disbursement

All shipping line landing charges including terminal handling, documentations and other incidents excluding storage, demurrage cost are passed on at actual cost. Aeronia charges a clearly identified professional administration and disbursement fee for managing these costs and co-ordinating the shipment through to release as follow.

20ft General Cargo Container	Cost + £ 85.00 ***
40ft General Cargo Container	Cost + £100.00 ***
DG UN Code Cargo Container	Cost + £135.00 ***
Reefer Cargo Container	Cost + £145.00 ***
DG Reefer Cargo Container	Cost + £155.00 ***
Complex Project & Complex Cargo	Cost + £165.00 ***

*** will apply to your container

** may not apply to your container

Storage, Demurrage & Third-Party Costs

Storage and Demurrage

Port storage and demurrage are charged at the rate imposed by the relevant shipping line, terminal or port. Where Aeronia is required to arrange, monitor or settle storage or demurrage charges on the customer's behalf, and Aeronia administrative / disbursement fee will also apply at £50-£85 for a 20ft container, £85-£100 for a 40ft container per container + cost. The applicable fee is based on the nature and complexity of the transaction and is not charged daily. For substantial or complex storage and demurrage transaction, a different fee may apply and will be advised separately.

Third-Party Disbursements

Where Aeronia pays a third-party charge on behalf of the customer, the actual cost will be recharged together with an Aeronia disbursement / administrative fee of £85 flat fee per 20ft container, £100 flat fee for a 40ft container + cost.

This may include, but is not limited to:

- Government agency charges
- Haulage-related charges
- Customs – related charges
- Inspection fees
- Other third-party cost incurred on the customer's behalf
- Storage charges

Notes:

Release to Order: We are unable to start the customs clearance process of your container until the letter of direct representation and renomination letter have been completed and return to the shipping line.

X-Ray: About 15% of containers are selected for X-Rays to which there will be a charge of GBP160 by the port authority to Aeron. You will receive a confirmation from the port authority informing you that your container has been selected for X-ray.

Release to Order: We are unable to start the customs clearance process for your shipment until the direct representative and renomination letter has been completed and return to the shipping line.

Demurrage and Quay Rent: These charges are applied by the shipping line if your container is not customs cleared and collected within the free storage period, usually five days from arrival. To avoid these costs, please ensure all documentation is provided promptly. In addition to the shipping line's charges, Aeron will apply an administration/disbursement fee until the container is collected and returned to the port.

Physical examination: There will usually be a cost for moving the container to a safe place for HMRC/UKBA to do their examination. At Liverpool physical examination cost will be dependent upon the percentage of container's content examined. At all other ports the examination cost is automatically included in the port charges whether it takes place or not.

Vehicle Detention: You have three hours to unload a container upon delivery at your premises, after which 'detention' is charged by the shipping line, and an invoice is raised against Aeron per hour. As a result of this invoice, there will be a £13.50 added per hourly rate charge to cover our administration/ disbursement fee + cost following any invoice raised again Aeron by the haulier or shipping line.

Overnight Detention of container: Where a vehicle is held overnight due to the customer's inability to Devan the container within the allotted three-hour window, and the container is not returned to the shipping line's depot on the same day, additional charges will apply for the late return of their container. The UK law only allows the driver to drive up to certain hours, usually 8-hrs. The Driver MUST take a 12-hour rest before they can resume driving again. This may result in the delay in returning the container to the port. Any additional costs incurred as a result will be passed to the customer at cost with our administration disbursement costs of £100 for both 20ft container, and 40ft container flat fee + cost, will be added to cover our time liaising with the shipping line and haulier.

There may be circumstances beyond the customers' ability to unload on the day of the container's delivery to their nominated warehouse or delivery points. If the container cannot be unloaded and had to stay overnight at their premises there will be an overnight vehicle cost, including chassis cost and any detention charges incurred from the shipping line, and haulage partners. Aeron will add to the cost received from the above partners an administrative disbursement fee of £100 for both 20ft container and 40ft container flat fee + cost will be added to cover our time re-arranging and liaising with our partners or shipping lines to resolve the matter.

Unreasonable Detention: The customer shall be liable to pay Demurrage, without prejudice to any rights that the Carrier may have against any person in respect of any improper, excessive or unreasonable detention of any vehicle, trailer, container or other equipment belonging to or under the control of the Carrier.

Import demurrage & detention (all UK ports/terminals): Combined equipment demurrage and detention commence on and includes the day that the full container is discharged at the port and ends on the day that the empty container is gated in at the designated port or terminal.

Shipping Landing Charges: Shipping line will raise an invoice against us as your agent for handling your container. We will pay this invoice on your behalf and there will be an administration disbursement charge of £85 for a 20ft container, £100 for a 40ft container flat fee of landing invoice received. For DG/Reefer/Project cargo, please above table. If you wish to pay them directly, you may do so, but we cannot be held responsible for any issue with your payment to the shipping line or any third party, such as government agencies. It is your responsibility to liaise with them, if you pay them directly. If a member of Aeronia liaises with the shipping line, the above charges will apply.

Wasted Journey: Wasted Journey charge occurs when a shipping line or haulier has confirmed and booked a schedule appointment to deliver your container but is unable to perform the service due to circumstances within the customer's control.

This usually occurs when the delivery booking is cancelled too close to the scheduled date and time. (some haulier allows for 24-hours, and other 48 hours' notice is required) including Saturdays, Sundays and bank holidays and the delivery cannot be completed on the scheduled day. The shipping line, and haulier **will** charge for a full re-delivery, and we will also include our rate in the re-delivery of your container should this happened.

Container Liability: If you choose to arrange your own haulage after the container has been released to Aeronia by the shipping line, you will be responsible for any damage, loss, late return or other charges incurred. To protect Aeronia from financial liability, a Container Liability Agreement must be signed by a company director, authorised representative or the individual importer before the container can be released. No container will be released until the signed agreement has been received.

Port Health Authority Non-Compliance Charge: From December 2020, the Port Health Authority has started to instigate a charge specified for non-compliance. Port health authorities are issuing this charge after noting an increase in non-compliance of feed and food imports from specific countries. The charge enables them to ensure the costs of their controls are specifically targeted at the relevant food businesses and person responsible for the load.

Where an import issue is identified, subsequent imports will have the charge automatically applied on the next 5 subsequent imports. The purpose of the subsequent checks is to assess the extent and the impact of the case of non-compliance or to verify that the non-compliance has been remedied.

Aerona will pass this cost to the customer at cost and would charge the customer the following rate to cover our administrative costs for dealing with the non-compliance.

Situation	Aerona Charge
Minor customer amendment	£35.00 **
Standard customer non-compliance administration	£50.00 **
Port Health compliance issue requiring substantive intervention	£75.00 **
Complex & repeated issue requiring significant work	£100+ quoted **

H.M.C Examination at T.C.E.F. (Import Cargo): For any examination or identity checking by H.M.C.at T.C.E.F a surcharge per container will be levied. For containers this will be in addition to the customs import entry charge.

Examinations by Port Health, Defra, Trading Standards or Other Government Authorities (Import Cargo): If your shipment is selected for examination, inspection or identity checks by Port Health, Defra, Trading Standards, DGMCA or any other government authority, a charge **per container** will apply. This fee covers administration, container positioning, gas checks and coordination of the inspection and is payable in addition to the customs clearance fee. Any charges levied by the inspecting authority, port operator, shipping line or any other third party, together with any recurrent national surcharges, storage, quay rent or other related costs, will be recharged to the customer at cost.

UKAT (Import Cargo) – Formerly Common Agricultural Policy Goods (CAP) Import Cargo: Units selected for examination which contain UKAT goods, will incur a surcharge per container, irrespective of the amount cargo removed for the examination process. This charge is inclusive of positioning and gas checking. For containerised cargo this will be levied in addition to the customs import entry charge.

Forest Commission Examinations (Import Cargo): Containers selected for Forestry commission examination will incur a surcharge per container, inclusive of positioning and gas checking. For containerised cargo this charge is in addition to the Customs Import Entry Charge.

Environmental Agency Examination (Import Cargo): Containers selected for Environment Agency examinations will incur a surcharge per container, inclusive of positioning and gas checking. For containerised cargo this charge is in addition to the Customs Import Entry Charge.

Door-side Examination (Bill of Sight): Including gas check, opening/closing doors and two movements. This charge will apply to all trailers selected for examination by statutory bodies, for containers it will apply if a bill of sight is specifically requested by the shipping line.

Administrative & Disbursement Fee: Where Aeronas is required to arrange, process, pay, recover or otherwise administer charges levied by shipping lines, ports, terminals, government authorities, storage providers, hauliers or other third parties on behalf of the customer, Aeronas may apply a separate administration and disbursement fee. Such fees relate specifically to the administration and disbursement of the relevant third-party charge and are passed on at the actual cost incurred.

In certain circumstances, we are required to make advance payments on your behalf to government authorities or statutory bodies, including HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC), Port Health, Trading Standards and other authorised agencies, to facilitate the release of your shipment for onward delivery.

As we are unable to fund these payments from our own resources, a disbursement fee of £85.00 for a 20ft container or £100 for a 40ft container amount paid will be applied for each payment made on your behalf. This fee covers the administration, processing and financial costs associated with advancing funds and managing the payment through to the release of your shipment.

Aeronas administration / Disbursement fees cover the following activities:

Checking the shipping line invoice	Arranging payments
Using Aeronas's funds	Liaising with the shipping line
Obtaining releases	Dealing with documentation
Resolving Discrepancies	Chasing the shipping line
Co-ordinating with the haulier	Monitoring the container
Dealing with amendments or unexpected charges	Taking responsibility for getting your cargo released.
Liaising with port authority (when required)	Liaising with port health
Customs Targeting Team	Government department eg. Trading Standard etc
General Warehousing	Other parties
Payment of port storage/ detention	Payment to Port Authority
Terminal Charges	Inspection charges
Other Government department charges	General storage

**** All costs are subject to change ****

WHY AERONA?

- **Personal Service:** We offer a named team dealing with your shipment rather than an anonymous processing service.
- **We take ownership:** From instruction through to customs release, we manage the clearance and liaise with the relevant parties when required.
- **Clear communication:** We tell you what is happening, what we need from you and when additional charges or action may arise.
- **Experience when problem arise:** When a shipment is not straightforward, our experience helps identify the issue and work towards a solution.
- **Transparency pricing:** We distinguish between Aeronas professional fees and third-party cost such as shipping line handling, storage, examinations and government charges.