

## An Post will support Irish businesses and personal customers by maintaining parcel services to the US despite the imposition of taxes by the US.

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While everyone is aware of new US tariffs on Irish exports, the US has just recently directed that the long-standing tax-free â€~de minimus' allowance for parcel contents of less than \$800 in value being posted from Europe to the US will cease from 29th August.

The only exceptions to this new ruling are traditional letters, documents and parcels containing gifts valued at less than \$100 or €85.

While a large amount of parcels being posted from Ireland to the US are gifts with stated values lower than \$100, this 'de minimus' cessation by the US administration will disrupt some Irish trade into the US, and risks causing confusion, delay and inconvenience for sending and receiving customers.

Rather than simply suspend all parcel services to the US, as some other european postal carriers are planning, An Post is actively seeking a solution for Irish companies selling into the US through the postal service so that we can support them and the Irish economy by keeping trade routes open. This will involve the receiving US

customers having to pay the required duties locally before delivery can be completed. We want to assure Irish customers that we are working on their behalf and will advise them of the new arrangements for their US parcels in the coming days. An Post is also directly contacting Irish business customers who sell goods into the US through the postal service.

It is important to clarify that these new US rules only affect mail items containing goods. It will not impact regular letters or documents. Traditional letters and cards to the US will be carried as normal, as will clearly marked personal gifts up to a value of \$100 (€85) – provided all the necessary customs documentation has been completed at the Post Office.

**Source: An Post**