

[UK Export Finance helps Rautomead export to China](#)

About the transaction: Rautomead

Sector	Manufacturing
Buyer	Shaanxi Sirui Advanced Materials Co., Ltd
Destination market	China
UKEF support	Supplier credit

Rautomead manufactures continuous casting technology for non-ferrous alloys. It has been exporting worldwide for 35 years. The company's continuous casting machine will be used to produce complex copper chrome zirconium alloy rods at Shaanxi Sirui's factory in Baoji City.

To support their overseas sales activity Rautomead used our [Supplier Credit Financing Facility](#), which allows UK companies to get paid on dispatch for their exports whilst letting buyers benefit from deferred payment terms.

To secure the deal, we provided a guarantee to the London Forfaiting Company, enabling the lender to pay Rautomead 85% of the contract value after dispatch and collect repayments from Shannaxi Sirui over five years.

We work with banks to provide flexible, innovative, and competitive financing solutions. We support UK exporters, international project sponsors and buyers of UK goods and services. [Tell us about the project](#)

[COVID-19 testing data: letter to the Office for Statistics Regulation](#)

[unable to retrieve full-text content]Response from Matt Hancock, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, to a letter from Sir David Norgrove, chair of the Office for Statistics Regulation.

[170 kilos of heroin seized by Border](#)

Force at Heathrow

News story

More than 170 kilos of heroin has been stopped from being smuggled into the UK by Border Force officers.



Border Force officers at Heathrow Airport have prevented an attempt to smuggle more than 170 kilos of heroin into the UK.

The seizure, which had a potential street value of around £8.5 million, happened on Thursday (21 May). The drugs were found in a freight consignment consisting of 630 commercial boxes of fruit and nuts and were hidden in envelopes concealed in the outer cardboard box walls. Each outer box contained approximately 270 grams of heroin.

Following the seizure, the investigation was passed to the National Crime Agency (NCA). Two men (aged 36 and 51) were arrested in the Bradford area on Friday (22 May) on suspicion of importing Class A drugs and a third man was arrested in Birmingham on Saturday (23 May). All three were later released under investigation.

Minister for Immigration Compliance and the Courts Chris Philp said:

This substantial seizure was the largest class A drugs detection so far this year by Border Force at Heathrow.

Illegal drugs fuel crime, violence and exploitation which is why our work to prevent them reaching our communities is so vital.

Border Force will continue to work with the NCA and other law enforcement agencies to tackle the threat and bring drug smugglers before the courts.

NCA Branch Commander, Mark Spoor, said:

This significant amount of heroin would have ended up on the streets of the UK and ultimately lined the pockets of the criminals involved in drug supply.

Despite the restrictions in place, we are continuing to work closely with our partners at Border Force to keep the public safe and to fight the supply of illegal drugs; dismantling crime groups and cutting off their profits.

We remain determined in our fight against serious and organised crime.

Border Force officers use hi-tech search equipment to combat immigration crime and detect banned and restricted goods that smugglers attempt to bring into the country.

Anyone with information about activity they suspect may be linked to smuggling should call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or go to the [Report smuggling](#) page on GOV.UK.

Published 27 May 2020

[French border restrictions in response to coronavirus](#)

Travelling to France

Since 20 March 2020 entry to France has been limited to those transiting through France, returning French nationals and permanent residents, and a small number of essential travel categories.

In order to enter France you will need to complete an international travel certificate, which certifies that your journey is essential and confirms that you have not been suffering from a set of listed symptoms associated with Covid19. This travel certificate is available on the [French Ministry of the Interior's website](#).

If entering France from the UK, EU, Andorra, Holy See, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Monaco, Norway or Switzerland you will need to complete the travel certificate (in English) under "Attestation de déplacement dérogatoire vers la France métropolitaine depuis: l'Union Européenne et Andorre, Islande, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norvège, Saint-Marin, Suisse, Royaume-Uni, Vatican".

If entering France from other locations or travelling to French overseas

territories you will need to fill in tailored versions of the international travel certificate, accessible on the same webpage.

The international travel certificate needs to be produced for entry, along with any supporting paperwork to substantiate the essential nature of your travel. If you are entering or transiting through France, depending on your circumstances, you also need to have:

- a [travel declaration](#) to certify your reason for travel if your primary residence is more than 100km from your point of entry
- a [travel certificate](#) if travelling in Île-de-France (Greater Paris) on public transport at peak hours (from 06h30 to 09h30 and from 16h00 to 19h00)

From 25 May a voluntary 14 day self-quarantine will apply to those arriving in France from outside the UK, EU (except Spain where arrivals by air will be asked to self-quarantine) Andorra, Holy See, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Monaco, Norway and Switzerland.

Once self-isolation measures come into effect for arrivals to the UK (planned for 8 June), France will then also ask arrivals from the UK to observe a voluntary 14 day self-quarantine.

Travellers showing signs of a COVID-19 infection upon arrival in mainland France will have to carry out a mandatory 14 day quarantine at home or in a dedicated location indicated by the French authorities if home quarantine is not feasible.

All travellers to French overseas territories will also have to carry out a mandatory 14 day quarantine. Full detail and a list of exemptions to self-quarantine in France are set out in a [Ministry of Interior press statement](#) (in French) and its [translation](#) (in English).

Travelling to the UK

From 8 June

From 8 June, there will be new rules in place for entering the UK because of coronavirus (COVID-19). The rules are for residents and visitors.

When these rules are in place, you will:

- need to provide your journey and contact details when you travel to the UK
- not be allowed to leave the place you're staying for the first 14 days you're in the UK except in very limited situations (known as 'self-isolating')

You do not need to do these things now. But you should check the [latest public health advice on coronavirus](#) before you travel, or if you've just arrived in the UK.

Once the rules come into place you may be fined £100 if you refuse to provide your contact details, £1,000 if you refuse to self-isolate in England and Wales, or you could face further action. You'll be able to find more information on enforcement measures in Scotland and Northern Ireland on this page soon.

Full [detail and a list of exemptions to self-quarantine in the UK are set out here](#).

[French government restriction on movements and implementation of sanitary measures at the borders](#)

This is an unofficial translation of the French government's press release from 22 May 2020 regarding border restrictions.

To contribute to managing the circulation of COVID-19, the law of the 11 May 2020 implementing a health state of emergency included the possibility to introduce specific sanitary measures for travellers arriving to mainland France and its overseas territories.

This measure is in addition to the movement restrictions in place at our borders since 18 March and until 15 June 2020.

The application of the decrees of the 11 May law will be published and enter into effect on 23 May 2020. They create a legal framework to enable the enforcement, based on decision of the Prefet and under the control of a judge, of self-isolation quarantine measures at home or in adapted accommodation. This is legally possible, which is currently systematically applied in the [French] overseas territories where the health situation is specific, as well as for people arriving at our borders presenting COVID-19 symptoms during health checks, which will be put in place.

In addition, the government will implement, from Monday 25 May 2020, a measure of voluntary quarantine based on the country of origin/arrival of travellers:

- for travellers arriving from outside the European Area (all of the countries in the world except European Union member states, the United-Kingdom, Andorra, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland and the Holy-See) the principal in place remains the same as today, and until further notice, that is the closure of borders and a ban from entering

French nationals or permanent residents of France can however continue to access the French territory, as well as certain specific categories detailed on the [website of the Ministry of Interior](#). However, it is requested that they act responsibly by respecting a voluntary quarantine.

Upon arrival, individuals admitted into the national territory from outside of the European area will be given information on the conditions under which the voluntary quarantine can be followed at their residence of choice or, alternatively, at an adapted accommodation building. The passenger's sense of responsibility and civic duty is called upon to implement these precautionary health measures.

- for travellers arriving from within the European area (European Union member states, the United-Kingdom, Andorra, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland and the Holy-See) the borders are not closed but are still subject to movement restrictions whose implementation are based on border controls coordinated with our partners

Some measures have been eased: in addition to French nationals or permanent residents in France, cross-border workers and international transporters, new categories of people are now authorised to access the national territory, namely for family reasons (separated spouses, continuation of studies, childcare, visits to dependent parents) and professional reasons (seasonal workers and European posted workers whose mission cannot be postponed) to contribute to restarting the economy.

The full list of authorised categories is available on the [website of the Ministry of Interior](#). Furthermore, to facilitate the fluidity of traffic while also implementing the restrictions that remain in place until 15 June, border crossing points will be gradually reopened and permanent border controls will be replaced by spot checks. Finally we are working on developing a unique and common certificate with our border states.

In health terms, taking into account the similar epidemiological situations of European states, and the coordination of crisis management measures, there will be no quarantine requirement upon entry on French territory for individuals arriving from countries in the European area.

However, for travellers arriving from European countries, whose authorities have decided, without coordination, to apply quarantine measures upon entry to their territory for travellers arriving from European countries, a voluntary quarantine will be requested in reciprocity.

As such, travellers arriving from Spain by air only, will be invited from Monday the 25 May onwards, to respect a voluntary quarantine, because Spain implemented a quarantine system for travellers arriving in Spain by air on 15 May. This applies to all travellers, regardless of nationality, including French and Spanish travellers. In the same way, travellers arriving from the United Kingdom, regardless of their nationality, will be invited to respect a period of quarantine as soon as the British quarantine measures, announced this evening, enter into practical effect.

The following individuals will be exempted from the voluntary quarantine measures, unless they present symptoms:

- people transiting to a third country
- crew-members and people operating passenger and cargo flights, or travelling as passengers to reach their departure base
- people ensuring the international transport of goods
- train and bus conductors and crew
- crew-members and people operating cargo and fishing vessels
- foreign health professionals contributing to the fight against Covid-19
- diplomatic and consular mission personnel, as well as personnel from international organisations that have an office or their headquarters in France, as well as their children and spouses
- French or foreign internal security and defence forces personnel returning from their posting, or on their posting, the judicial authority during the performance of their duties as well as other agents of the State posted abroad or returning from their posting, as well as their children and spouses
- frontier workers
- compassionate grounds for family reason (travel justified due to childcare obligations, child visiting rights or accommodation needs of a child including the pursuit of studies, urgent assistance to a close relative or the funeral of a close relative)
- individuals allowed to enter the territory for an economic reason if the length of their stay is under 5 days. The quarantine conditions applicable to seasonal and posted workers are set out in the instruction of 20 May 2020.

To undertake any such journey, all travellers will need carry the following documents available on the [Ministry of Interior website](#):

- an international attestation movement certificate (Attestation de Déplacement international derogatoire)
- a declaration of honour certifying that the traveller does not have any symptoms of COVID-19 infection

In addition, France continues its efforts to reinforce its coordination with its European partners, in particular border countries. We invite the Countries of the European area to favour quarantine measures that do not apply to travellers arriving from the European Area.

We are also promoting coordinated health measures at the external borders of the European area, with the objective of producing in the weeks to come a harmonised list of third countries where the active circulation of the virus is observed, and for which reinforced and coordinated health measures can be implemented.