



18 March 2020

**Notification of temporary derogation from driving and rest times pursuant to
Article 14(2) of Regulation EC 561/2006
by IRELAND due to COVID-19**

In response to the extraordinary circumstances due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak, **IRELAND** has agreed to a temporary relaxation of the enforcement of EU driving and rest times. This derogation will apply to all operators and drivers subject to the EU drivers' hours and tachograph rules engaged in the carriage of goods (including oil supplies). This relaxation is granted pursuant to Article 14(2) of Regulation (EC) No 561/2006 and the European Commission and all other EU Member States (and the UK) have been notified.

This temporary relaxation applies from **MARCH 18th 2020** and until **APRIL 16th 2020**. It will apply to those drivers involved in **DOMESTIC and INTERNATIONAL** transports.

For the above-mentioned category of drivers, the following provisions will be temporarily relaxed as follows:

- **Derogation to Article 6(3) of Regulation 561/2006:** the fortnightly driving limit is lifted from 90 hours to 112 hours.
- **Derogation to Article 8(6) of Regulation 561/2006:** In any two consecutive weeks a driver shall take at least two reduced weekly rest periods whilst maintaining the rule that a weekly rest period shall start no later than at the end of six 24-hour periods from the end of the previous weekly rest period. There shall be no requirement for compensation or for a regular weekly rest period to be taken.

IRELAND has made it clear that while the COVID-19 outbreak may impact on driving time, driver safety and other road user's safety must not be compromised.

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