



**Cross-Border Road Transport
Operator Handbook for
Zimbabwe**



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	2
2. GOODS MOSTLY EXPORTED TO AND FROM ZIMBABAWE	2
3. RESTRICTIONS AND ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION.....	4
4. DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION	5
4.1 Importation process and documents	5
4.2 Exportation process and documents	7
5. PASSENGER VOLUMES AND MOVEMENTS.....	8
6. ROAD TRANSPORT LEGISLATION	8
6.1 Speed Limits.....	8
6.2 Traffic Fines in Zimbabwe	9
6.3 Vehicle Dimensions and Weights Restrictions.....	10
7. REQUIREMENTS FOR CROSS BORDER TRANSPORT	11
8. CROSS-BORDER CHARGES.....	12
9. CONTACT DETAILS OF RELEVANT AUTHORITIES	14

1. INTRODUCTION

The publication provides you (transport operators) with information that is useful for decision making in the course of doing cross-border business operations between South Africa and Zimbabwe. Other than providing you with information on key requirements for conducting cross-border operations, it also provides business opportunities that exist in the market.

It is therefore recommended that you use this publication to advance business interests as information captured in this publication can be used for purposes of making informed decision making and identifying opportunities that exist for cross-border operators and traders conducting business in Zimbabwe.

2. GOODS MOSTLY EXPORTED TO AND FROM ZIMBABAWE

Table 1 and Table 2 show the goods that are mostly traded between South Africa and Zimbabwe in either direction. Cross-border operators should tap into this market, targeting the major manufacturers and producers of the goods.

Table 1 Goods exported to Zimbabwe

COMMODITY	SHARE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO ZIMBABWE				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Vegetable products	4.87%	4.93%	8.70%	9.58%	6.51%
Animal or vegetable fats & oils	7.64%	8.44%	4.81%	3.99%	3.72%
Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits & vinegar; tobacco	9.08%	9.87%	10.04%	9.63%	8.96%
Mineral products	7.56%	4.45%	4.30%	5.02%	5.03%
Products of the chemical or allied industries	16.01%	16.05%	18.11%	17.85%	19.85%
Plastics & articles thereof; rubber	6.37%	6.85%	7.46%	7.65%	8.00%
Raw hides & skins, leather, furskins	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.10%	0.15%
Wood & articles of wood; wood charcoal; cork	0.66%	0.76%	0.63%	0.68%	0.72%
Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; waste & scrap of paper or paperboard	3.96%	3.78%	3.95%	4.03%	4.06%
Textiles & textile articles	1.67%	1.55%	1.67%	1.49%	1.45%
Footwear, headgear, umbrellas	0.39%	0.39%	0.46%	0.34%	0.38%
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials; ceramic products; glass & glassware	1.41%	1.69%	1.66%	1.70%	1.93%
Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones	0.02%	0.00%	0.01%	0.06%	0.17%
Base metals & articles of base metal	9.82%	10.50%	8.92%	9.50%	10.05%
Machinery & mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	18.24%	18.99%	17.40%	16.16%	16.89%
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels & associated transport equipment	8.14%	7.49%	7.47%	7.77%	7.27%
Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments	1.13%	1.13%	1.25%	1.05%	1.18%
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1.30%	1.36%	1.38%	1.54%	1.74%
Works of art, collectors pieces & antiques	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%
Other unclassified goods	0.08%	0.05%	0.03%	0.06%	0.02%
Special classification of original equipment components/parts for motor vehicles	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Table 2 Goods imported from Zimbabwe

COMMODITY	SHARE OF TOTAL IMPORTS				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Live animals, animal products	0.115%	0.037%	0.048%	0.184%	0.082%
Vegetable products	2.874%	3.179%	4.867%	8.654%	4.717%
Animal or vegetable fats & oils	0.011%	0.003%	0.000%	0.001%	0.001%
Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits & vinegar; tobacco	17.907%	16.433%	17.757%	32.916%	14.981%
Mineral products	38.320%	44.389%	47.345%	16.107%	23.190%
Products of the chemical or allied industries	0.509%	0.400%	0.523%	0.692%	0.333%
Plastics & articles thereof; rubber	0.408%	2.317%	1.986%	2.038%	0.489%
Raw hides & skins, leather, furskins	0.538%	0.759%	1.722%	3.195%	1.722%
Wood & articles of wood; wood charcoal; cork	1.753%	2.093%	1.953%	4.393%	1.442%
Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; waste & scrap of paper or paperboard	0.165%	0.408%	0.340%	0.589%	0.407%
Textiles & textile articles	15.536%	10.278%	12.602%	12.863%	5.966%
Footwear, headgear, umbrellas	0.402%	0.547%	0.711%	0.894%	0.573%
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials; ceramic products; glass & glassware	0.313%	0.217%	0.378%	0.667%	0.265%
Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones	10.690%	9.546%	1.901%	0.943%	0.086%
Base metals & articles of base metal	8.356%	6.383%	4.711%	8.966%	43.521%
Machinery & mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	1.434%	1.950%	2.102%	5.272%	1.634%
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels & associated transport equipment	0.162%	0.321%	0.249%	0.172%	0.058%
Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments	0.056%	0.084%	0.062%	0.245%	0.047%
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	0.371%	0.439%	0.531%	0.815%	0.218%
Works of art, collectors pieces & antiques	0.078%	0.087%	0.095%	0.180%	0.106%
Other unclassified goods	0.002%	0.129%	0.116%	0.212%	0.162%

3. RESTRICTIONS AND ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION

The following are restricted goods which require a licence or permit to import into Zimbabwe:

- Live animals – health certificate required along with complete and valid inoculations;
- Agricultural produce;
- Plants and plant products, soil medium, invertebrates;
- Firearms and ammunition (Hunting weapons permissible only with authorisation obtainable from Ministry of Interior);
- Relics and national monuments;
- Local and Foreign currency; and
- Stills and all apparatus or parts of apparatus capable of being used for the production or refining of alcohol.

The following goods are absolutely prohibited from importation to Zimbabwe:

- Pornographic materials;
- Flick knives/lock blades;
- Skin lightening creams containing hydroquinone and mercury;
- Base, counterfeit or forged coins or currency;
- Prison- made and penitentiary-made goods;
- Spirituous beverages which contain preparations, extracts, essences or chemical products which are noxious or injurious;
- Any goods which are indecent, obscene or objectionable;
- Any goods which might tend to deprave the morals of the inhabitants, or any class of the inhabitants, of Zimbabwe; and
- Any goods the importation of which is prohibited by or under the authority of any enactment.

4. DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION

4.1 Importation process and documents

- The Government of Zimbabwe has signed on 16/03/15 a 4-year Consignment-Based Conformity (CBCA) contract with a French global company, Bureau Veritas. This contract provides the pre-shipment services of the listed products in the country of export and issuance of certificates of conformity based on the national and international quality, safety, health and environment standards in line with the WTO agreements.
- From the 16th of May 2015 any consignment on the category list not accompanied with the required CBCA certificate will be refused from entering the country. This is an interim measure, while the establishment of the Zimbabwe Quality Standards Regulatory Authority is being finalised.
- The verification will take place in the country of export where upon satisfactory verification, a CBCA certificate will be issued for the consignment.
- This certificate shall be presented for Customs clearance on arrival in Zimbabwe. The items in the category list are:
 - Food and Agriculture;
 - Building and civil engineering;
 - Timber and timber products;
 - Petroleum and fuel;

- Packaging material;
- Electrical/electronic appliances;
- Body care;
- Automotive and transportation;
- Clothing and textile;
- Engineering equipment;
- Mechanical appliances; and
- Toys.
- The clearance of importations is done by a Bill of Entry which is processed in the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) system.
- The importer should have a Business Partner Number which is activated for Customs purposes.

The following documents are required when clearing commercial importations:

- Bill of Entry (Form 21): This Bill is lodged through the ASYCUDA World system. This is an internet based system where clearing agents and registered companies submit their clearance documents electronically.
- All the supporting documents should be scanned and submitted as attachments online (in ASYCUDA) together with the bill of entry.
- If importer has no tax clearance certificate (ITF 263) Informal Cross Border Trader's Tax of 10% of the value for duty purposes will be due and payable together with any duties and other charges which may be due before goods can be released by ZIMRA.
- Payments are done by way of bank deposits into the ZIMRA account where the amount will be credited to the agent's or importer's account with ZIMRA.
- Documents are processed, assessed and if correct a Delivery Release Order is issued authorising the collection of goods from the carrier or detention.
- If there is need to inspect the goods, an Examination Order is issued and an inspection carried out to verify the quantities, classification, origin, values or any aspect that needs clarification.
- After assessment, two sets of documents in hard copies must be submitted for final release of the goods;
- Commercial invoices;
- Cargo release order;
- Value Declaration Forms;
- Bill of Lading;
- Packing List;

- Road manifest;
- Transit entry documents (South Africa's form SAD500);
- Value Declaration Form;
- Insurance Statement; and
- SADC -Certificates of Origin.

Where goods are imported from SADC, COMESA or any Member State with which Zimbabwe has a bilateral trade agreement, preferential rates of duty will be applicable if the correct certificates of origin are attached.

- Zimbabwe has the following trade agreements: COMESA, SADC, Zimbabwe-Malawi Trade Agreement, Zimbabwe-Botswana Trade Agreement, Zimbabwe-Mozambique Trade Agreement, Zimbabwe-South Africa Trade Agreement and Zimbabwe-Namibia Trade Agreement.
- A certificate of origin signed by the exporter or manufacturer of the goods and duly authenticated by the relevant authority in the country of export should be produced.
- For goods to be exported from Zimbabwe, the exporter and the goods should be registered with ZIMRA under the relevant trade agreement.
- Duty is calculated on the basis of Cost, Insurance and Freight (CIF) value of the imported goods up to the point of entry into Zimbabwe.
- Insurance and Freight inside Zimbabwe is excluded from the Value for Duty Purposes (VDP). The CIF value of the imported goods is an aggregate of the cost of goods, insurance, freight and any other charges incurred outside Zimbabwe.

4.2 Exportation process and documents

- Documentation for exportation needs to be done by either a registered importer or a registered clearing agent.
- No duties are payable on export but clearance fees are due and payable.
- A Bill of Entry (Form 21) is lodged through the ASYCUDA World system with the following supporting documents attached to the entry:
 - Exchange Control CD1 forms which are obtained from commercial banks;
 - Suppliers' invoices;
 - Consignment notes; and
 - Copies of Export Permits/Licences (where applicable).

5. PASSENGER VOLUMES AND MOVEMENTS

Passenger volumes and movements trends between South Africa and Zimbabwe are shown below in Table 3

Table 3 Passenger Volumes and Movements

	2013		2014	
	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures
South African	222 874	226 650	239 597	242 675
Foreign nationals	3 261 114	2 848 246	3 374 000	2 805 683
Total	3 483 988	3 074 896	3 613 597	3 048 358

Source: StatsSA Tourism

- It is evident that there was an increase in the number of passengers, both South African and foreign nationals, from 2013 to 2014.
- The number of passengers arriving into South Africa from Zimbabwe increased by 3.59% from 2013 to 2014; and of those travelling to Zimbabwe from South Africa decreased by 1% in the same period.

6. ROAD TRANSPORT LEGISLATION

- Road transport in Zimbabwe is regulated by the Road Motor Transportation Act.
- The Act provides for the licensing of drivers of motor vehicles; issuing and recognition of international driving permits and foreign drivers licences; compulsory insurance against third party risks arising out of the use of motor vehicles; traffic signs and police directions; the control of certain advertisements; certain offences connected with road traffic; prohibition from driving and endorsement of licences and for the powers and duties of various persons.

6.1 Speed Limits

Unless an appropriate road traffic sign is displayed indicating a lower speed limit, every public road or section thereof:

- Within an urban area, is subject to a general speed limit of 60 kilometres per hour;
- Outside an urban area, is subject to a general speed limit of:
 - 100 kilometres per hour if it is not a tarred road;
 - 120 kilometres per hour if it is a tarred road; and
- A general speed limit of 120 kilometres per hour applies in respect of every freeway.

In terms of section 76(3) of the Act, a speed limit of:

- 80 kilometres per hour, subject to the proviso to that section, applies in respect of:
 - A goods vehicle, with a gross vehicle mass exceeding 9 000 kilograms;
 - A combination of motor vehicles consisting of a goods vehicle, being the drawing vehicle, and one or two trailers of which the sum of the gross vehicle mass of the goods vehicle and of the trailer or trailers exceeds 9 000 kilograms; or
 - An articulated motor vehicle, of which the gross combination mass of the truck-tractor exceeds 9 000 kilograms;
- 100 kilometres per hour, subject to the proviso to that section, applies in respect of -
 - A bus; and
 - A minibus used for the conveyance of persons.

6.2 Traffic Fines in Zimbabwe

The following traffic fines are applicable in Zimbabwe.

Table 4 Traffic Fines in Zimbabwe

DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT US(\$)
Speeding	6 -15	5
k/per hour over limit	16 -25	10
	26 – 35	15
	36 – 50	20
	50+	Court
Fail to	Display current vehicle licence	5
	Produce documents to police	5
	Produce documents to VID	10
	Licence vehicle registered vehicle all classes	10
	Display registration mark and number	10
	Notify change of ownership – 14 days	10
No	Number plate	10
	Rear number plate light	5
	Drivers licence	20
	Insurance	10
	White front reflectors	5
	Red rear reflectors	5
	Red “T” on rear trailer	10
	Amber side reflectors on motor vehicle and trailer longer than 8m	5
	Red triangles	15
	Horn or abuse of horn or fail to use horn	10
	Stopping, no parking, no left or right turn	5
Other	Proceed against red robot	20
	Proceed against amber robot	10
	Encroach over white line at a robot	10
	Overtake over solid white line	20
	Cut corner when turning	10
Defects	No headlight, one headlight or no side lights	5
	No windscreen wiper	5
	Leaks of oil onto road	5
	Handbrakes not working	15
	Footbrakes not working	20

6.3 Vehicle Dimensions and Weights Restrictions

- Zimbabwe’s axle load regulations compares favourably with most other countries. Tables below gives an indication of the Axle, Gross Combination Mass and Dimensional limits:

Table 5 Legal Load Limits for Goods Vehicles in Zimbabwe

COUNTRY	STEERING AXLE	SINGLE AXLE	TANDEM AXLE	TRIDEM AXLE	COMBINATION AXLE
Angola	7 700 kg	10 000 kg	16 000 kg	24 000 kg	38 000 kg
Botswana	7 700 kg	8 200 kg	16 000 kg	24 600 kg	50 200 kg
Lesotho		8 200 kg	16 400 kg	21 000 kg	49 000 kg
Malawi	7 700 kg	8 200 kg	16 400 kg	24 600 kg	55 000 kg
Mozambique	7 700 kg	10 000 kg	16 000 kg	22 000 kg	38 000 kg
Namibia	7 700 kg	8 200 kg	16 400 kg	21 000 kg	48 400 kg
South Africa	7 700 kg	8 000 kg	16 000 kg	24 000 kg	56 000 kg
		(2 wheels)	(2 wheels)		
South Africa		9 000 kg	18 000 kg		
		(4 wheels)	(4 wheels)		
Swaziland	7 700 kg	8 200 kg	16 400 kg	21 000 kg	50 200 kg
Tanzania	7 700 kg	10 000 kg	18 000 kg	24 000 kg	52 000 kg
Zimbabwe		8 000 kg	18 000 kg	24 000 kg	56 000 kg

Table 6 Legal Dimensional Limits for Goods Vehicles in Zimbabwe

COUNTRY	OVERALL WIDTH	OVERALL HEIGHT	LENGTH OF RIGID	LENGTH OF ARTICULATED	LENGTH OF COMBINATION
Angola	2,5 m	4,0 m	15,0 m	18,0 m	20,0 m
Botswana	2,5 m	4,1 m	12,5 m	17,0 m	22,0 m
Lesotho	2,6 m	4,1 m	12,5 m	17,0 m	22,0 m
Malawi	2,5 m	4,6 m	12,5 m	17,0 m	22,0 m
Mozambique	2,5 m	4,0 m	12,0 m		18,0 m*
Namibia	2,5 m	4,1 m	12,5 m	17,0 m	22,0m
South Africa	2,5 m	4,3 m	12,5 m	18,5 m	22,0 m
	(medium)				
South Africa	2,6 m				
	(heavy)				
Swaziland	2,5 m	4,1 m	12,5 m	17,0 m	20,0 m
Tanzania	2,6 m	4,4 m	12,5 m	17,0 m	22,0 m
Zimbabwe	2,5 m	4,6 m	12,5 m	18,5 m	22,0 m

When the legal mass limits are exceeded an Abnormal Vehicle (AV) registration is required.

7. REQUIREMENTS FOR CROSS BORDER TRANSPORT

The following are requirements for travelling to Zimbabwe:

- Valid passport of the driver;
- Certified copy of vehicle registration papers in the name of the driver;
- Letter of authority from the registered owner if the vehicle is not owned by the driver
- If vehicle is still being financed, a letter of authority from the bank (must include dates of travel) together with the vehicle license papers;
- Police Clearance Certificate: is required if travelling through the Chirundu Border Post, for vehicles and trailers. When applying for Police Clearance certificate, it is required

to have a Request for Police Identification/ Clearance (RPC) Form obtainable from the Traffic Department;

- Commercial Vehicle Guarantee (CVG): Private vehicles do not require a CVG it is only applicable for Commercial vehicles. Obtainable from Zimbabwe registered clearing agents and payment of relevant bond is between USD 30 to USD 50;
- Third-Party Insurance: Compulsory - obtained at border post or at an AA Accredited Sales Agent store;
- Road Access Fee: Based on the vehicle's size paid on entry only:
 - R90 for a small sedan;
 - R270 for a large 4x4;
- Exit Pass: R70 at each exit;
- Carbon Tax: charges from R50 to R240;
- White and Red Reflective Tape: Two small white rectangular size strips on the right and left hand side of the front bumper as well as two small red square strips on the right and left hand side of the rear bumper. Ideally, the strips should be honeycombed. If towing a trailer, two small red square strips on the right and left hand side of the rear bumper are required;
- Temporary Import Permit is issued at the border post upon entry, free of charge;
- Warning Triangles: Two warning triangles on a metal plate;
- White and Red T-sign: Required if towing a trailer; white must be displayed on front right hand side of trailer/caravan and red on the rear right hand side of the trailer / caravan;
- Fire Extinguisher: Compulsory;
- Safety Vests: Recommended; and
- ZA Sticker.

8. CROSS-BORDER CHARGES

Zimbabwe activated cross-border charges for foreign vehicles terminating trips or transiting through the country.

- The cross-border charges that South African operators are charged in Zimbabwe are Yellow card, New Limpopo Bridge fee, Carbon tax- horse, Carbon tax- trailer, Environmental Management Agency (EMA) fee, Commercial Vehicle Guarantee (CVGs), Gate Pass, Goods inspection fee, Parking fee and Victoria Falls bridge fee.
- All cross-border operators are required to pay the cross-border charges.

The estimated Freight Cross-Border Charges

Table 7: Freight Transport Charges

CROSS BORDER CHARGES	AMOUNT (R)	VALIDITY
Gate Pass	R 650.00	Per entry
Coupons	R 1,626.00	Return trip
CVG (+trailer)	R 1,355.00	30 days
Carbon Tax	R 1,220.00	30 days
Third Party Insurance	R 813.00	30 days

Note: US\$1.00 = R11.03

Table 8: Passenger Transport Charges - Bus

CROSS BORDER CHARGES	AMOUNT (R)	VALIDITY
Gate Pass	R 690.00	Per entry
Coupons	R 1,500.00	Return trip
CVG	R 400.00	30 days
Carbon Tax	R 420.00	30 days
Memorandum	R 200.00	Return trip
Third Party Insurance	R 1,890.00	30 days

Note: US\$1.00 = R11.03

Table 9: Passenger Transport Charges - Taxi

CROSS BORDER CHARGES	AMOUNT (R)	VALIDITY
Gate Pass	R 250.00	Per trip
Coupons	R 1,100.00	Return trip
CVG (+trailer)	R 450.00	30 days
Carbon Tax	R 250.00	30 days
Third Party Insurance	R 600.00	30 days

Note: US\$1.00 = R11.03

- The Rand value of the charges were established at the time when the Rand/US\$ exchange rate was at US\$1 to R11.03; and

- Since Zimbabwe is using the US\$ as the base currency, it is important that operators take note of the current Rand/ US\$ exchange rate in order to estimate the cross-border charges in Rand value at any point in time.

9. CONTACT DETAILS OF RELEVANT AUTHORITIES

Should cross-border operators or any other part conducting trade between South Africa and Zimbabwe face challenges at border posts and or in the corridor, they should contact the following key stakeholders for speedy resolution of challenges and assistance,

Table 6 Contact Details

South Africa	Cross-border Road Transport Agency	012 471 2000
	Port coordinator	013 793 7626
	SARS Customs	013 793 7458 083 555 3357
	BCOCC Provincial	013 793 7626 082 573 7871
	DHA	013 793 0102 079 519 3099
	DHA – Inspectorate	013 793 0101 072 147 2335
	SAPS	013 793 7311 072 062 4988
	Agriculture	013 793 8534 082 213 6304
	SANRAL	012 844 8000
	Bakwena Platinum Corridor Concessionaire	011 519 0400
	Port Health	013 793 7183 071 103 9112
	State Security	082 804 5878
	Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe National Road Administration
Zimbabwe Revenue Authority		+263 -08622529
Ministry of Transport and Infrastructural Development		04 700991-9

NB Contact details correct as at time of completing the publication.