

# UK-TAIWAN

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## TRADE DIGITALISATION PILOT

Faster, greener, more resilient trade  
between the UK and Taiwan

SUMMARY REPORT  
JUN 2026



# Building the UK–Taiwan Digital Trade Corridor

The UK–Taiwan Trade Digitalisation Pilot (TDP) is part of the UK’s push to create trusted, paperless trade corridors with strategic partners. Supported by LogChain and UK Gov, the pilot tested digital trade in two high-value sectors – semiconductors and Scotch whisky – using real shipments.

**Key Points:**

- Trade digitalisation replaces paper with interoperable, legally recognised electronic flows – powered by technologies like electronic transferable records, e-signatures, and digital identities .
- For businesses, it means faster clearance, lower costs, and greater resilience.
- For regulators, it improves compliance, visibility, and carbon tracking .

- The pilot built on earlier ASEAN work and aligned with the UK–Taiwan Enhanced Trade Partnership, showing how collaboration reduces friction and makes supply chains more secure and efficient .





**Focus Areas:**

- Testing a UK–Taiwan digital trade corridor with real shipments.
- Assessing SME readiness and digital maturity.
- Applying digitalisation across air, road, and sea.
- Using a “traffic light” system to flag barriers.
- Measuring impact on operations via clear KPIs .

## Participants

| Participants            | Description   | Goal Alignment  |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Clas-SiC Wafer Fab      | World's first pure-play open foundry for Silicon Carbide (SiC) power semiconductors, based in Fife, Scotland. | Strongly aligned with goals to boost productivity and digitalise supply chains. Already technologically advanced, with high potential to adopt and showcase digital trade tools.    |
| Kimbland Distillery     | Independent, farm-to-bottle Scotch whisky distillery located on Sanday, Orkney Islands                        | Represents small/emerging exporters. Participated to gain foundational knowledge in trade and compliance, aligning with the Pilot’s goal of enabling digital access to new markets. |
| Skene Scotch Whisky Ltd | Boutique whisky bottler and cask broker with a focus on high-value, export-led Scotch whisky supply chains.   | Ideal test case for digital trade. Their complex documentation and export experience helped validate digital tools across real-world, commercially active supply chains.            |

# Key Benefits of the Pilot








| Category  | Details   |
|---|---|
|  <p>Operational Efficiency</p>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clas-SiC: Shipment processing time reduced from ~6 hours to ~2 hours (67% improvement)</li> <li>• Whisky: From ~120 minutes to ~30 minutes (75% improvement)</li> </ul>      |
|  <p>Email Traffic Reduction</p>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 80% reduction in shipment-related emails, improving clarity, responsiveness, and reducing digital carbon footprint</li> </ul>   |
|  <p>Document Handling</p>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 70–80% of shipment documents replaced with digital forms</li> <li>• Improved accuracy, consistency, and reduced duplication</li> </ul>                                       |
|  <p>Environmental Impact</p>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual CO<sub>2</sub> savings for Clas-SiC ~ 68%</li> <li>• Up to 90% reduction for whisky exports</li> </ul>  |
|  <p>Cost Savings</p>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced man-hours lead to lower labour costs</li> <li>• Streamlined processes free up staff for higher-value activities</li> </ul>   |
|  <p>Communication &amp; Visibility</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Real-time task tracking, alerts, and dashboards replaced unclear, multi-threaded email chains</li> <li>• Enhanced visibility and coordination across stakeholders</li> </ul> |
|  <p>Error &amp; Risk Reduction</p>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automated validation reduced rework and delays due to manual errors</li> </ul>   |
|  <p>User Experience</p>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants reported smoother, more controlled workflow and easier coordination</li> </ul>  |

# Lessons Learned & Next Steps

## Lessons Learned

- Success depends on people, processes, and policy, not just technology.
- E-documents and e-signatures must be legally recognised.
- SMEs require clear onboarding and training.
- Building trust is essential for adoption.

## Traffic Light Results

| Document/Process             | Classification  | Notes  | Barrier Type  |
|------------------------------|---|--|---------------|
| Commercial Invoice           |  Green  | Fully digitalised and accepted in all test shipments         | None          |
| Packing List                 |  Green | Fully digitalised and viewable to stakeholders               | None          |
| Air Waybill (AWB)            |  Green | Digitalised version created and accepted                     | None          |
| Export Declaration           |  Green | UK exports supported eDeclarations                           | None          |
| Import Declaration           |  Green | Taiwan customs accept eDeclarations                          | None          |
| Certificate of Origin (CofO) |  Amber | Out of scope for this pilot, not tested with Taiwan Customs  | -             |
| Certificate of Age           |  Red   | Not accepted in digital form by UK export compliance systems | Public Sector |

## Next Steps

- Scale up what already works digitally.
- Address barriers through a joint UK–Taiwan legal and regulatory review.
- Extend pilots to sea, rail, and digital finance.
- Embed carbon tracking into future trade flows.

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