

Import Collections

What's an import collection?

Import collections are also known as inward bills, inward collections or import documentary collections. They give greater reassurance than trading on an open account basis when you import. You only pay when you've seen the shipping documents, providing evidence goods are on the way to you.

How does it work?

1. You agree the purchase terms with your supplier and provide our details for them to send the documents to.
2. Your supplier ships the goods. They send the shipping documents and payment instructions to their bank, who then send the documents to us. Shipping documents can be invoices, insurance certificates or bills of lading.
3. We'll let you know when we get the documents and send you copies. You then give us authority to pay or provide us acceptance to pay on the due date. Once we've paid on your behalf or received your acceptance to pay on the due date, we give you the original shipping documents. Where a longer payment period has been agreed, we'll release the original documents to you upon receipt of the accepted bill of exchange. This is your promise to pay later. The accepted bill of exchange will be presented to you for final payment on maturity.
4. We'll pay your supplier's bank in accordance with their instructions.

How it could help you

- Simple, cheaper, faster and safer than trading on 'Cash in advance' terms.
- Provides comfort to you, as you don't pay until you've seen a copy of the shipping documents. We'll have the originals.
- Provides peace of mind to your supplier as documents are held by Santander until payment or acceptance to pay at a later date is received.
- Improves liquidity, as you'll only pay once goods are shipped. Plus, you may be able to negotiate a period of credit with the supplier.

- No bank facility required, unless your supplier asks for the acceptance to be guaranteed by us. This is called avalisation. This is a specific endorsement which banks can add to give a guarantee of payment. This is an extra cost. Your Relationship Director or Trade & Supplier Finance Director can advise if you're eligible for this. Any guarantee facility with us will be arranged by your Relationship Director. This is subject to status and our credit criteria. We reserve the right to decline any application.
- Governed by internationally recognised rules issued by the International Chamber of Commerce.

How much does it cost?

A collection commission and postage costs will apply per transaction. Full details will be provided by your Relationship or Trade & Supplier Finance Director.

Things to think about

Contract terms can be altered (subject to agreement with your supplier) without incurring additional costs from us. This can be done right up until goods are shipped.

This product doesn't guarantee payment by any bank to your supplier.

Delay in acceptance or payment might lead to you incurring demurrage costs.

For more information, please contact your Relationship Director or Trade & Supplier Finance Director.

