



Strategic Command

FORCE INFORMATION NOTE: 2024 – 10120

MoD Commercial Vehicle Insurance - Switzerland

Released: June 2024

Expires: June 2025

REFERENCE	GSO-GEO/02 Command or Direct or Manage the Unit
AUDIENCE	All UK NSE, and other UK supporting elements, in support of the Global Support Organisation supported framework. All members of the force, the Civilian Component, and their entitled Dependants.
REFERENCE(S) SUPPORTING INFORMATION	A. NATO SOFA Supplementary Agreement (sharepoint.com) B. JSP 800 Vol 5 Part 1 - Defence Movements and Transport Policy C. Movement and Transport Safety Regulator
SUPERSEDES	
AUTHORITY	UK Head of Mission - Germany
CONTACT	Germany Enabling Office GSO-GEO-CmdGrp@mod.gov.uk

Directorate Overseas Bases

GERMANY ENABLING OFFICE

(The United Kingdom's Military Mission to
the Sending States in Germany)



PREAMBLE

Reference to, or presentation, of information belonging to HMRC or authorities other than the Germany Enabling Office are correct at the date of publication and provided for guidance only without recourse to this office.

IMMEDIATE CHANGE TO COMMERCIAL GREEN CARD INSURANCE COVER FOR ALL UK MOD VEHICLES OPERATING IN SWITZERLAND

INTRODUCTION

1. This instruction is issued on behalf of the UK Head of Mission, Headquarters Germany Enabling Office, to all Defence organisations in the conduct of transport operations in Switzerland.

CURRENT SITUATION

2. Switzerland is strictly a neutral country that does not allow any military activity within its borders, except by specific invitation by the Swiss military Authorities. Defence Regulatory Policy dictates that all UK MoD vehicles driving in Switzerland must be completely civilianized and, in non-military colour [White Fleet], and in addition Green Card Commercial Vehicle Insurance is required.¹

PURPOSE

3. The purpose of this information note is to inform the audience that Headquarters Germany Enabling Office (HQ GEO) have engaged with the Swiss Military Protocol Department² via the British Embassy Berne, Switzerland, to both challenge and determine whether the NATO Partnership for Peace Status of Forces Agreement (PfP SOFA) takes precedence over the Swiss Ordinance of the Insurance of Vehicles³ and therefore does not establish any obligation for members of a Force to take out Third-Party Commercial Liability Insurance when operating within Switzerland.

CONFIRMATION OF MOTOR LIABILITY COVER

4. The Assistant to the Defence Attaché (ADA) British Embassy Berne, Switzerland, has confirmed that the Swiss Military Protocol Department have agreed that the PfP SOFA takes precedence over the Swiss Ordinance of the Insurance of Vehicles, therefore and with immediate effect, **no Green Card Commercial Insurance is required for UK MoD vehicles operating within Switzerland.**

5. The MoDs Common Law Claims and Policy Division, MoD Main Building London, has confirmed that in the interim, they will deal directly with any claim from Switzerland in the first instance and then seek to recover the SOFA-stipulated proportion from the appropriate Swiss Military Authority once identified. All third-party claims to that end relating to this matter are to be addressed to –

- a. **SPO CIDU CLCP Claims Manager 3**
Level 3, Zone 1
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall

¹ JSP 800 Volume 5, Leaflet 31, Driving Overseas, Para 50.

² Issues Transit/Diplomatic permissions to enter Switzerland.

³ Art. 44 ff of the Swiss Ordinance on the Insurance of Vehicles (Verkehrsversicherungsverordnung (VVV) RS 741.31) states that the driver of a foreign vehicle must have a Green Card.

London
SW1A 2HB

E-Mail: SPODJEP-ClaimsGeneral@mod.gov.uk

ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION

6. What is yet to be established is the relevant Governmental authority within the Swiss MoD that will deal with any third-party claims in the first instance, and then recover 75% of the total compensation paid from the British Forces. This work to identify a process will continue by the HQ GEO Force Master Driver (FMD) and UK Area Claims Office (ACO) Manager (GEO), with the MoDs Common Law Claims and Policy Division with relevant Defence stakeholders being informed accordingly.

GEO POLICY CENTRE

7. These, published instructions, once released, are routinely available through the [GEO Policy Centre](#) as is the case with all other Whole Force Policy.

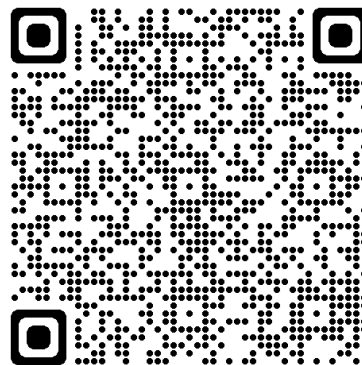
8. Where applicable these instructions should be read alongside more detailed extant policy delivered through Force Standing Orders/Force Standing Instructions. Where any change in policy is introduced, these instructions are to be regarded as having primacy. Force Standing Orders and/or Force Standing Instructions will be reviewed and republished in due course at which point the Information Note/Directive may be withdrawn.

OPEN-SOURCE INFORMATION

10. The Germany Enabling Office wherever possible seeks to provide information on the matters that is suitable for the public domain through its World Wide Web supporting capability.



[GEOWeb:](#)



[UK Defence in Germany and Europe:
Information notes - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Original Signed

UK Head of Mission