

Do you know the tunnel code?

What Happened:

On 22 November a driver was stopped by authorities in the residential area in Zwijndrecht (NL33). The trailer had orange plates, appearing to carry fully regulated Dangerous Goods. The truck was on his way to the terminal in Europoort. After investigation it appeared the driver was avoiding the Drechttunnel as he was uncertain if he was permitted to take the tunnel while carrying Dangerous Goods.



Findings:

- The Driver carried orange plates but it appeared the Dangerous Goods were all subject to exemptions (LQ and Special Provisions).
- The Drechttunnel on the A16 route to Europoort is a Category C tunnel.
- Dangerous Goods carried under exemptions of ADR 1.1.3 are not subject to restrictions of the tunnel codes.
- After receiving a warning and closing the orange plates the driver was allowed to continue.
- Dutch legislation prohibits units carrying Dangerous Goods to drive in residential areas unless it is necessary for collection or delivery or in case there is no alternative route.

Recommendations:

- ✓ Familiarise yourself with the tunnel codes on the paperwork
- ✓ Packed goods are often subject to Tunnel code E
- ✓ Familiarise yourself with the intended route to drive