

# Notice to Passengers

## Passing through Customs at the Hoverport

In 2002 Hoverspeed won a landmark High Court case in relation to the actions of Her Majesty's Customs and Excise Officers when passengers entered the United Kingdom with goods purchased on the Continent. Hoverspeed are committed to ensuring that Customs abide by the Court rulings towards our valued passengers.

**Q. Are there any limits to the amount of excise goods individuals can bring back to the UK?**

A. No. Under EU law, individuals can bring into the UK **unlimited** amounts of Beers, Wines, Spirits, Cigarettes and Tobacco provided it is for their "own use". "Own use" means goods that will be consumed by the individual or given away, as long as no payment or reimbursement of any kind is received for them.

**Q. What if Customs stop you at the Hoverport?**

A. Ask them why they have stopped you. Under the High Court ruling Customs must have reasonable grounds for stopping you and they are not allowed to randomly select passengers. Make a note of their answer, the officer's name and badge number.

**Q. What should you do then?**

A. You should answer Customs fully and truthfully. If Customs intend to seize your goods, the burden of proof is upon them to prove that your purchases are not for your "own use". You should ask them to explain why they stopped you and why they intend confiscating your goods. You should always obtain a written receipt.