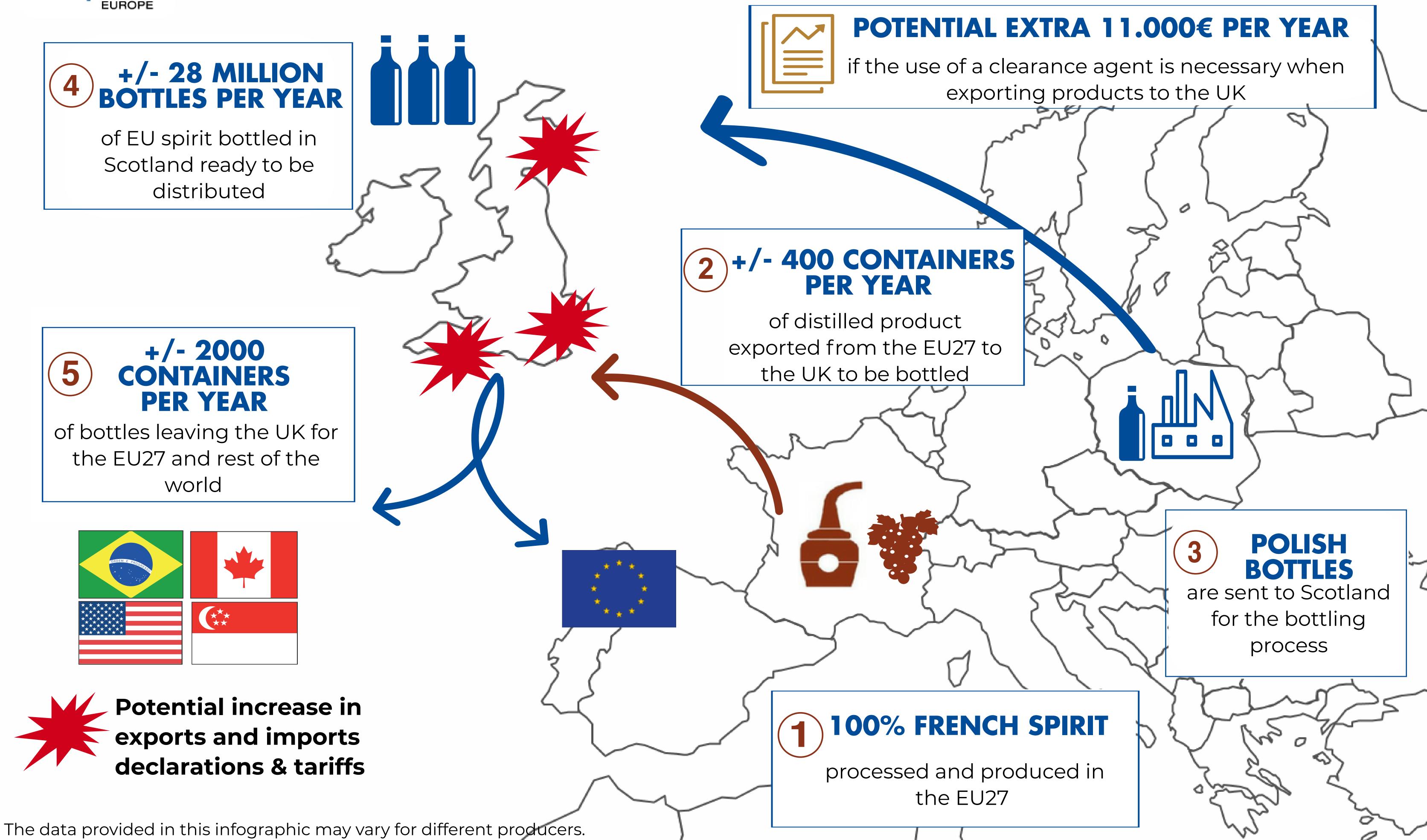
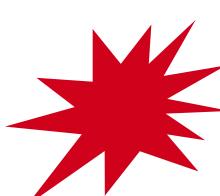


PRODUCT JOURNEY CASE STUDY SPIRITS SECTOR - A FRENCH VODKA EXAMPLE





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IMPACT

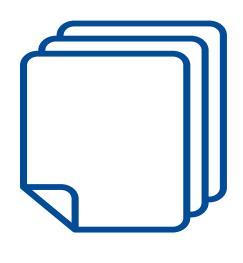
390 containers of French spirit, along with **5/7 million bottles** from Poland, are shipped to a bottling facility in Scotland.



Currently, the entire value chain operates without tariff and non-tariff barriers and maximises the competitiveness of European supply chains. Post Brexit the on-going competitiveness of this production value chain and the security of the jobs that it supports is uncertain.



Thousands of containers from the UK are exported to 3rd country markets every year, many of which benefit from preferential market access under the EU's network of free trade agreements. When the UK's access to these agreements cease, exports from the UK would face non-tariff and tariff barriers to market access, particularly in relation to Rules of Origin (RoO) which on average require that a minimum 60% of content must originate in the country of final export. Under current origin rules, this product would not benefit from preferential access, with impacts that would ripple back through the supply chain to Poland and France.



The movement of spirits is controlled under the Excise Movement and Control System (EMCS) which is threatened by Brexit. This will lead to greater administrative burdens as a result of the requirement for additional customs clearances. Clearance agents on average charge £25 per import.



Regulatory divergence would mean additional burdens in meeting the technical specifications for two different market places. Jobs throughout the supply chain would be affected from increased production costs. Duplication of conformity assessment procedures between the UK and the EU-27 would also impose extra cost burdens.



Modern supply chains run to tight deadlines to prevent the holding of excessive inventory. Disruption to movements of intermediate products could see production stoppages or contractually problematic delays in distributing product to retailers.



When the UK leaves the EU, **VAT simplifications** under the **VAT Directive** will no longer apply to the UK. Consequently, this product could find itself exposed to two sets of VAT liabilities, again **raising the costs of production**.