INTERNAL MARKET

CABOTAGE

Cabotage is the term used to describe situations where a foreign truck makes domestic deliveries on the territory of an EU Member State right after an international trip from another Member State or from a country outside the EU. Until now, EU rules allowed for 3 cabotage operations within 7 days of the international delivery. The new rules will allow for any number of cabotage operations within 5 days of the international delivery.

It’s important to understand that international truck deliveries (between EU Member States) are fully liberalised in the EU, there is no need to go back to the country of origin of the truck before a new international trip is carried out. Only cabotage is still subject to restrictions.
PROPOSED CHANGES:

TODAY
3 operations in 7 days

AFTER
Any number of operations in 5 days

BENEFITS:

• Simpler and realistic enforcement > no need to count operations
• More flexible and simpler for business/truck companies/drivers
• More sustainable > Less empty runs
• Same rules in the whole EU

in 2015, 23%
of all heavy good vehicles in the EU ran empty