Integration - Portbase Secure Chain

This article explains how Secure Chain works in Qargo, how to recognize a Secure Chain shipment, and how to create or delegate a booking when Secure Chain applies.

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Using Portbase Secure Chain in Qargo

Secure Chain ensures that only authorized companies can pick up or deliver a container at Dutch sea terminals. Qargo fully supports receiving and delegating these permissions, so workflows remain smooth and compliant.

What is Secure Chain?

Secure Chain is a security process in Portbase that gives specific companies the right to:

- Create a pre-notification
- Pick up or drop off a container

Two actions are possible:

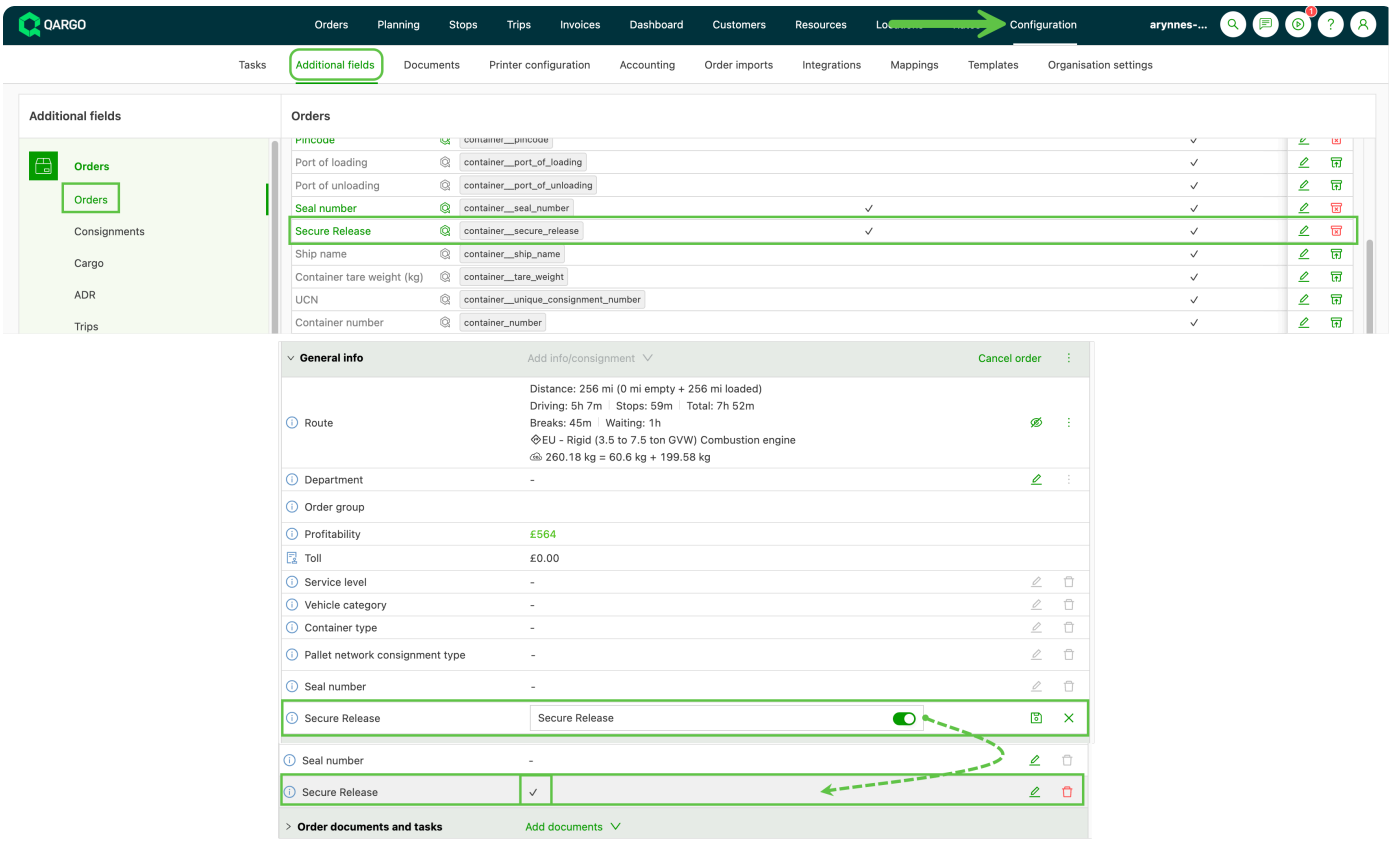
1. **Receiving Secure Chain permission**
   → Another party nominates the company to handle a container.
2. **Delegating Secure Chain permission**
   → The company transfers its permission to a contract carrier.

Qargo helps automate these steps where possible.

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1. Enabling Secure Chain in Qargo

Secure Chain shipments in Qargo are identified with the **Secure Release** checkbox on the order.



This field can be:

- Set automatically when a Secure Chain nomination arrives from Portbase
- Set via **order import** or **API**
- Checked manually if needed

Important:
If the container is known to be a Secure Chain shipment but the Secure Release box is *not* checked, Qargo has not yet received the nomination from Portbase. The box can be checked manually to ensure correct processing.

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2. Receiving Secure Chain permission

When another party nominates the company in Portbase:

1. A Portbase user nominates the company for a specific container.
2. Qargo receives the nomination with the shipment ID and container details.
3. Qargo automatically matches it to the correct order.
4. The Secure Release checkbox is automatically enabled.

How this affects the Status Request task

When a status request is run:

If Secure Release is…	Qargo will…
Checked	Skip creating a pre-notification (already handled by the nomination).
Not checked	Create the pre-notification normally.

This prevents duplicate pre-notifications in Portbase.

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3. Creating a booking (no delegation)

For normal bookings where the company keeps the pickup rights:

1. Create a booking in Qargo.
2. Run the task **Create Container Booking to Portbase**.
3. Qargo sends the booking to Portbase using the Secure Chain shipment details.
4. Portbase returns the booking confirmation.

This flow works the same as a regular Portbase booking, except that Secure Chain ensures the permissions are valid before pickup.

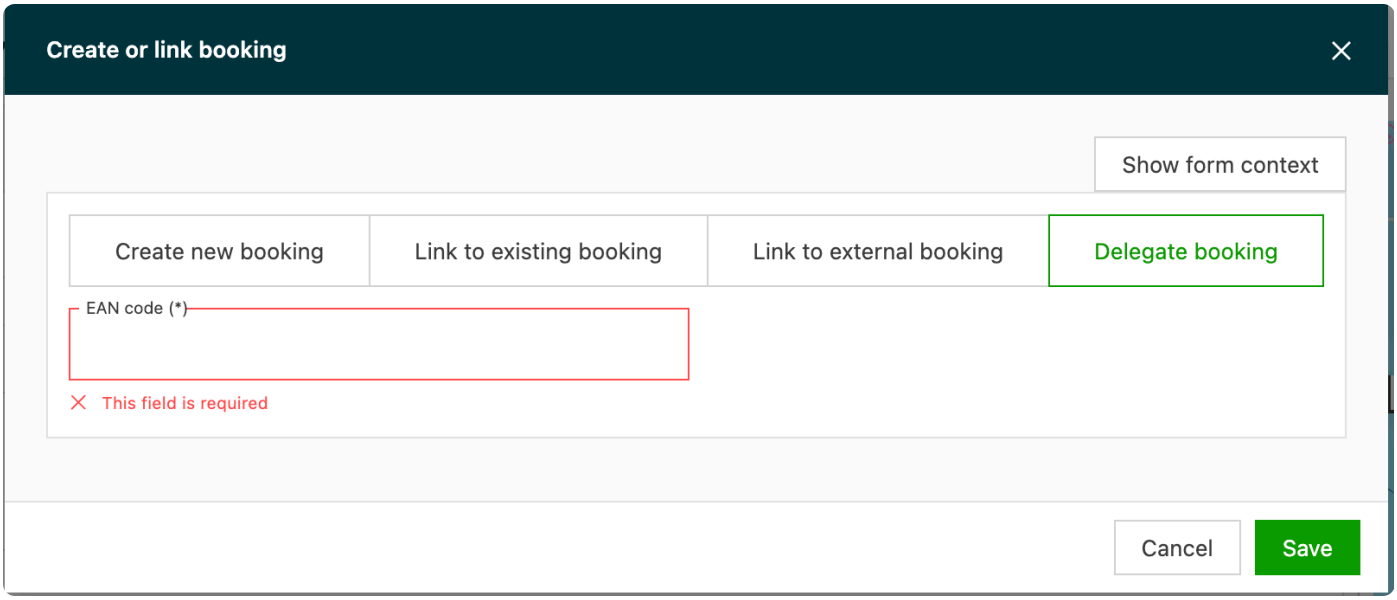
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4. Delegating Secure Chain permission

Permission can be delegated to a contract carrier in two ways.

Delegating from Qargo

1. Create a booking in Qargo.
2. Select **Delegate to contract carrier** and enter the contract carrier's **EAN reference**.



1. Run **Create Container Booking to Portbase**.
2. Qargo automatically:
   - Confirms the shipment was found

- Checks that Secure Chain applies
- Sends the delegation command to Portbase

The contract carrier now receives the rights to pick up the container.

Delegating via the Portbase UI

Alternatively, delegation can happen directly in Portbase:

1. A Portbase user delegates the container to the contract carrier.
2. Portbase sends the update to Qargo.
3. Qargo continues to show the pickup status, even after delegation, so progress can still be monitored.

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5. Time slots and Portbase

Portbase does **not** provide an API to share available or updated time slots.
This means:

- **Time slots in Qargo do not update automatically** after changes are made in Portbase.
- If Portbase assigns or changes a slot, the time slot must be **manually verified and updated**:
  - On the stop in Qargo
  - Or in the Portbase booking view in Qargo

Best practice

Always double-check the confirmed time slot when:

- First creating the booking
- Receiving updates from Portbase
- A contract carrier has been delegated rights

Summary

Qargo makes Secure Chain simple by:

- Automatically detecting and handling Secure Chain nominations
- Skipping unnecessary pre-notifications
- Allowing easy delegation to contract carriers
- Tracking pickup status even after delegation

For help with configuring Secure Chain, adjusting imports, or troubleshooting a Portbase flow, the Qargo support team is happy to assist.