



PRESS RELEASE

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4 Charged with Unlawful Importation of Controlled Drugs

Four Spanish nationals, detained by HM Customs in the early hours of Monday morning, appeared in the Magistrate's Court today. The four, resident in Gijon, Asturias, had been detained in the custody of HM Customs under the provisions of the Imports and Exports Act on the suspicion that they had controlled drugs concealed within their bodies.

All four have expelled pellets of cannabis resin, a controlled Class B drug, during their period in detention. The drugs had been concealed internally, by both ingestion and insertion. They were charged yesterday with the Importation and Possession of controlled drugs in the following quantities:

Adrian TRABANCO Haro (22) - 640.4g Cannabis Resin
Maria LORENZO Martinez (28) – 325.4g Cannabis Resin
Vanesa BLANCO Cortes (31) – 292.8g Cannabis Resin
Luis Manuel ESPINEDO Arias (22) – 119.5g Cannabis Resin

In court, all four entered guilty pleas and were sentenced to imprisonment for periods ranging from two to six months for the Importation of a controlled drug. ESPINEDA was sentenced to two months, BLANCO and LORENZO to three months each and TRABANCO for six months.

The physical evidence in this matter was recovered by trained Officers of HM Customs using a specifically designed Specimen Isolation Unit.