

SFDA FOOD CONSIGNMENT CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME

EXPORTER AND IMPORTER GUIDELINES SAUDI ARABIA

OVERVIEW

Exporters/Importers trading in Food Products to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) need to comply with the requirements of the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) in order to clear their Food Consignments at the Saudi Customs.

Obtaining a Certificate of Conformity (CoC) is mandatory for all Food (Animal/Vegetable origin) Consignments to KSA from Egypt and Jordan. The effective date of implementation of this mandate is from 1st of March 2019 for Egypt and from 1st of April 2019 for Jordan. Poultry and Poultry product consignments from the Russian Federation has also been included under the scope of the Programme. Exporters are requested to contact local Intertek Offices to understand and comply with the requirements of SFDA to ensure uninterrupted export of their products to KSA, by virtue of this new mandate.

The SFDA Food Consignment Certification Programme commenced on the 1st of September 2018. Exporters who avail the certification services from Intertek under this programme will benefit from a fast track clearance from KSA Customs and thereby expediting the placement of the food products in the KSA marketplace. Intertek's SFDA Food Consignment Certification Programme provides assurance to Saudi consumers of the Safety and Suitability requirements of imported Food Products. Obtaining a Certificate of Conformity (CoC) for Food Product Consignments prior to exporting into KSA, is highly recommended.

4 STEPS TO EXPORTING YOUR PRODUCT



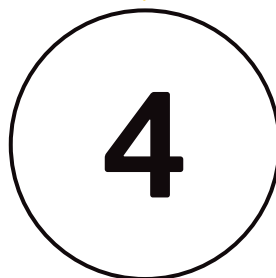
PRODUCT COMPLIANCE



CERTIFICATION PROCESS



FEES



CONTACT





PRODUCT COMPLIANCE



List of Countries of Supply and Food Products under the Scope of SFDA FCCP

Currently, the following products supplied from the corresponding countries as detailed below are under the scope of SFDA Food Consignment Certification Programme:

Country of supply	Food products
Brazil	Frozen Poultry products
China	Processed meat Packaging (Food Contact Packaging Materials) Sugar and Sweets
Egypt	All Food product consignments (Animal/Vegetable origin)
Ethiopia	Red Meat
India	Fishes & Aquaculture products Processed Vegetables and Fruits Red Meat Rice (milled) Spices, Coffee Beans and Tea Processed meat Sugar and Sweets, excluding Artificial Sweeteners Honey
Indonesia	Processed meat
Jordan	All Food product consignments (Animal/Vegetable origin)
Kyrgyzstan	Honey
Lebanon	Processed Vegetables and Fruits
Malaysia	Processed meat
Morocco	Processed Vegetables and Fruits
Pakistan	Red Meat Rice (milled) Processed meat Honey
Russian Federation	Poultry and Poultry products
Spain	Infant Formula
Sri Lanka	Spices, Coffee Beans and Tea
Taiwan	Fishes & Aquaculture products
Thailand	Fishes & Aquaculture products Rice (milled) Processed meat
Vietnam	Spices, Coffee Beans and Tea



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PRODUCT COMPLIANCE

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Saudi Requirements

All Food Products under the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) shall meet the following requirements of Saudi Food Law, Standards and Regulations including:

Registration with Saudi Authorities

- The Importer must have an account with the SFDA and the Food Product must be registered
- The Importer must have a valid Commercial Registration Certificate which includes Food Trade as a registered commercial activity
- Exporter must be registered with SFDA under Registration of Foreign Establishment

Laws, Regulations and Standards

- The Food Product must meet the Standards and other Requirements as stipulated by the SFDA
- Expiration Dates of Food Products shall be in line with the GSO standard (GSO 150) specified for certain products and shall comply with the minimum shelf-life requirement for its export to Saudi Arabia
- Food Products intended for the Saudi market shall be in compliance to the Halal requirements as per GSO 993 and GSO 2055-1 with respect to its slaughtering & processing practices
- Shipping containers for Chilled and Frozen Food Products must comply with GSO 323

Marking and Labelling Requirements

- Marking and Labelling information shall be in Arabic language. Other Languages may be used in addition to the Arabic Marking and Labeling provided that the information written in these languages is equivalent to the information written in Arabic text
- Marking and Labelling must comply with GSO 9 requirements that stresses on both consumer information and respect of the Saudi Customs and Islamic values (offensive imagery, contents to be avoided)

Additional Documentation

- Original Invoice attested by Trade Authority of the Country of Origin
- Certificate of Origin legalised by Chamber of Commerce of the Country of Origin
- All slaughtered animal products and meat products must be Halal certified and shall be accompanied with original Halal Slaughter Certificates and Halal Certificates as applicable
- Animal product consignments shall be accompanied with Health Certificates
- All Vegetable and Fruit product (Processed, Frozen, etc.) consignments from Egypt shall be accompanied with Health Certificates.

Exempted Products under the SFDA FCCP

- The initial list of food products under the scope does not include certain Products such as but not limited to Fresh Milk and Artificial Sweeteners
- Exporters are advised to contact local Intertek Offices for more information on exempted products under SFDA FCCP

Prohibited, Banned and Restricted Products

- Certain products have been classified as HARAM (Prohibited) in KSA such as but not limited to Pork and Pork products, Foodstuff and preparations from Animal blood, Wines and Intoxicants
- Some products have been Banned/ Restricted from import into KSA such as Nutmeg, etc.
- For more information on the Prohibited and Banned list of products, Exporters may contact the local Intertek Offices

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PRODUCT COMPLIANCE

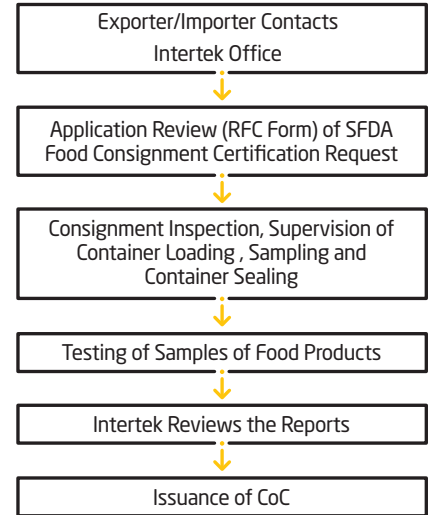




CERTIFICATION PROCESS

The Food Product to be exported to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will undergo conformity assessment by Intertek for its Safety and Suitability requirements using various conformity verification techniques such as document evaluation, INLIGHT registration (supply chain verification), inspection, testing, container sealing etc. Consignments meeting the SFDA requirements shall be issued with a Certificate of Conformity (CoC) by Intertek which can be used to clear the consignments on a fast-track basis at the Saudi Customs upon its arrival at Saudi Ports/Borders.

FOOD CONSIGNMENT CERTIFICATION STAGES



Document Evaluation

Mandatory documents submitted along with the RFC will be evaluated (Commercial Registration Certificate, Halal Slaughter Certificate, Halal Certificate, etc.) to verify the details of product consignment and its compliance to requirements.

Inspection

The Food consignment will be subject to physical inspection including verification of product label markings and other physical requirements as per approved SASO / GSO Standards and Technical Regulations.

Sealing

Container Sealing is done using Intertek's seal and the shipment must not be tampered with after sealing.

Testing

The Food products will be tested for Safety and Suitability requirements to the applicable SASO/GSO Standards. The tested sample of the products must comply to the requirements for establishing conformity of the consignment.

CoC

Food Consignments that comply with Inspection and Testing will be issued with a CoC which will help the Importer in clearing the shipment at the Saudi Customs.

INLIGHT Registration

INLIGHT registration is an enabler for Exporters to avail fast-track certification for their consignment at the Country of Supply. Intertek's Intellectual Property web-based platform "INLIGHT" enables dynamic Supply Chain Risk Assessment and registration of the applicant and the applicant's supply chain. Based on the Risk Assessment, the Exporter is profiled as a Critical Risk, High Risk, Medium or Low Risk Exporter with designated color codes (Red, Amber, Yellow and Green respectively). The level of compliance verification intervention applied to the food consignment under certification will be subject to the Exporter's risk categorisation. Results of the compliance verification of the consignment will play a vital role in the maintenance of the Exporter's risk categorisation.



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FEES FOR SFDA FCCP



FEES

The Fee details are as follows:




Certification FEE	Declared Consignment Value (US\$)	Maximum Fees Value (US\$)
Fees for Inspection, withdrawal of samples and issuance of the Certificates	1 - 50000	450
	50001 - 100000	650
	100001 - 150000	800
	150001 - 200000	1250
	200001 - 500000	2500
	500001 - above	3500
Fees for overseeing the loading and sealing of the consignments	US\$ 100 per 20' (feet) container	
	US\$ 125 per 40' (feet) container	

NOTES:

- Exporters applying for the CoC are responsible for the fee payment for the Food Consignment Certification services to Intertek
- The Certification Fees described above does not include the fees for product testing, INLIGHT registration and supply chain verification. These fees will be separately quoted as required to be performed by Intertek for establishing compliance

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Key:

- SFDA Saudi Food and Drug Authority
- FCCP Food Consignment Certification Programme
- RFC Request for Certificate of Conformity
- COC Certificate of Conformity