EU Feathers Restrictions Revised and Extended

The EU restrictions on the importation of feathers have now been extended until 30 September 2006, except for Russia, where the ban is now confined to certain Federal Districts and only been extended to 31 December 2005. Turkey has now been added to the list, until 20 October 2005, pending further tests.


For reference the revised list of affected countries (until 30 September 2006, unless stated otherwise) is:
- Cambodia
- China including the territory of Hong Kong
- Indonesia
- Kazakhstan
- Laos
- Malaysia
- Mongolia (by derogation, importation may still be authorised by the Member States)
- North Korea
- Pakistan
- Russia – only Far Eastern, Siberian and Urals Federal Districts (until 31 December 2005)
- Thailand
- Turkey (until 20 October 2005)
- Vietnam

These restrictions are that:
- Unprocessed feathers and parts of feathers cannot be imported from these countries (except for other parts of Russia, which require a health certificate, per the model in Annex I of 2005/693/EC).
- Processed feathers or parts of feathers shall be accompanied by a commercial document stating that the processed feathers or parts have been treated with a steam current or by some other method ensuring that no pathogens are transmitted. (This commercial document does NOT have to be signed by the official veterinarian in the country of origin.)
  Except that the following types of processed feathers do not require this certification:
  - Processed decorative feathers;
  - Processed feathers carried by travellers for their private use;
  - Consignments of processed feathers sent to private individuals for non-industrial purposes.

Feathers imported from other countries or as part of a finished product (e.g. fillings for cushions, pillows, duvets etc) are not coved by this restriction. Although it is still advisable to seek confirmation of their origin and the treatment processes applied. Ensuring that these are adequate to eliminate any traces of the virus.

Should you have any queries on the above news, please contact Ms. Denise Chan at Tel: (852) 2173-8770 / Fax to (852) 2785-8570 / Email: enquiry@intertek.com