

PROCESSED FOOD AND FOOD APPLIANCES IMPORT PROCEDURES & REQUIREMENTS

Statutory Requirement

The import and sale of processed food and food appliances are governed by the Sale of Food Act and the Food Regulations. All food products intended to be imported into Singapore for sale are required to comply with the local food standards and labelling requirements laid down in the Food Regulations. The Sale of Food Act and Food Regulations are available at AVA website:

<http://www.ava.gov.sg/Legislation/ListOfLegislation/>

Importer Registration

All importers of processed food and food appliances are required to register with the Quarantine and Inspection Group (QIG) of the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) prior to importation. Importers can register online at the Frontier:

<https://licence1.business.gov.sg/AVA/authentication/showLogin.action>

You may wish to call Crimsonlogic's help desk at 67741430 or email to licences-helpdesk@crimsonlogic.com, for assistance on registration

Importers are required to fulfill the following pre-requisites prior to registration. Firstly, importers must be a company or business that is registered with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA). All Singapore-registered companies, including newly registered ones, will have a Unique Entity Number (UEN) issued by Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA). Secondly, the importers must register their UEN with Singapore Customs (SC) at

<https://www.tradexchange.gov.sg>. Importers may contact SC at Tel: +65 63552000 (press * 0) or CrimsonLogic Admin at Tel: +65 68877888 (press 2) for further clarification on UEN registration. Importers will be issued with a Registration Number upon successful registration.

Import Permit

An import permit is required for every import consignment of processed food products or food appliances. Importers are required to apply for import permit by declaring every food item via the computerised TradeNet System (<https://www.tradexchange.gov.sg>) prior to importation. Each food item should be declared accurately using the correct HS codes and product codes. The list of processed food and food appliances together with their respective product codes can be found at: <http://www.ava.gov.sg/Resources/PrdCodesForTradeNet/>. An import permit will be issued electronically upon approval and can be printed out from the TradeNet system.

Food from Regulated Sources

The long-term objective of AVA's food safety program is to secure food safety at source. It is essential that food exported to Singapore is produced under sanitary conditions in a properly regulated establishment. Food importers are required to obtain food from regulated sources. They are required to maintain documentary proof that the products they import are produced in an establishment under proper supervision of the competent food authority or which has a quality assurance program acceptable to AVA. Such records should be made available for inspection or verification by AVA officers as and when required.

Product Testing

It is the responsibility of the food importers to ensure that the products imported by them comply with the Sale of Food Act and the Food Regulations. Importers are advised to initiate quality control checks and due diligence checks on the products by sending their products to accredited laboratories for analysis. A list of SAC-SINGLAS accredited food laboratories is available at AVA website at <http://www.sac-accreditation.org.sg/Directory/Directory.asp?Type=2>. Some examples of SAC-SINGLAS accredited food laboratories can also be found in Annex 1.

Risk Based Approach

AVA adopts a risk-based approach towards ensuring food safety. Food products identified through trend studies to be of high potential health risk, or have a history of poor food safety record are placed under strict import control (high risk). Food importers of these products are required to submit health certificates or laboratory analytical reports to certify the safety of the products. These products will also be subjected to inspections and/or sampling, at the points of import.

Importers are advised to check if the food products that they intend to import are classified under strict import control and to comply with the specific import requirements for such products. Importers may check at the following AVA website:

<http://www.ava.gov.sg/NR/rdonlyres/2BA0A4AA-05D8-4E3C-A8F9-60F26F90EA76/27312/ImportRequirementsofSpecificFoodProducts.pdf>

In addition, importers are required to comply with the conditional approval message stated in the import permit.

Clarification

Importers can visit AVA website at: <http://www.ava.gov.sg> if they require more information. Alternatively, importers can contact us during office hours at Tel: +65 68052992

LIST OF SAC-SINGLAS ACCREDITED LABORATORIES
(As on 22 Jan 2010)

The following are some of the SAC-SINGLAS accredited laboratories that conduct food testing.

Please refer to SAC-SINGLAS website for a complete listing of accredited laboratories:
<http://www.sac-accreditation.org.sg/Directory/Directory.asp?Type=2>

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| 1. | Veterinary Public Health Laboratory
Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority
10 Perahu Road
Singapore 718837
Tel: 6795 2822 Fax: 6861 9491 | 6. | TÜV SÜD PSB Pte Ltd
Testing Group
Chemical and Materials
1 Science Park Drive
Singapore 118221
Tel: 6885 1333 Fax: 6775 9725 |
| 2. | Analytical Laboratories (S) Pte Ltd
8 Kaki Bukit Place
Singapore 416186
Tel: 6746 0886 Fax: 6746 3830 | 7. | ALS Technichem (S) Pte Ltd
14 Little Road #07-01
Tropical Industrial Building
Singapore 536987
Tel: 6283 9268 Fax: 6283 9689 |
| 3. | Health Sciences Authority (Food Laboratory)
Centre for Analytical Science
11 Outram Road
Singapore 169608
Tel: 6213 0805/6
Fax: 6213 0839 | 8. | Ugene Laboratory Services Pte Ltd
21, Woodlands Industrial Park E1,
#04-08
Singapore 757720
Tel: 6368 6625 Fax: 63687150 |
| 4. | Chemical Laboratory (S) Pte Ltd
520 Balestier Road #06-01
Leong On Building
Singapore 329853
Tel: 6253 6122 Fax: 6250 4837 | 9. | Pacific Lab Services
Zagro Global Hub
5 Woodlands Terrace
5th Floor, East Wing
Singapore 738430
Tel: 6759 1811
Fax: 6759 2066 |
| 5. | Setsco Services Pte Ltd
Biological & Chemical Technology
Division
18 Teban Gardens Crescent
Singapore 608925
Tel: 6566 7777 Fax: 6566 7718 | 10. | SGS Testing & Control Services Singapore Pte Ltd-Life Science Services
26 Ayer Rajah Crescent
#06-10 Ayer Rajah Industrial Estate
Singapore 139944
Tel: 63790111, 63790150
Fax: 67790527, 67745297 |