

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 Food (Animal/Vegetable origin) Consignments to KSA from Egypt and Jordan which was effective from 1st of March 2019 for Egypt and from 1st of April 2019 for Jordan. Effective from 29th October 2019 SFDA mandated that Agricultural product consignments including Spice shipments from India would require test reports for clearance of such consignments at KSA Ports/Borders. From 1st January 2020, SFDA extended the requirement of CoC and test reports for consignments of Sheep and Beef meat, Rice, Processed Fruits & Vegetables from India. SFDA has also extended the mandatory issuance of CoC for Fresh Fruits and Fresh Vegetables, Spices and Agricultural Crops exported from Egypt, Jordan, and India for their clearance at KSA Ports/Borders effective from 15th September 2021.

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.

## 4 STEPS TO EXPORTING YOUR PRODUCT



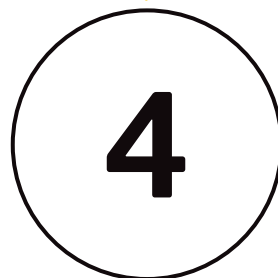
### PRODUCT COMPLIANCE



### CERTIFICATION PROCESS



### FEES



### CONTACT



# 1

**SHIPMENT COMPLIANCE**

## SHIPMENT COMPLIANCE



### All Food Products from the following Countries of Supply

Intertek can assist with issuance of CoC for all Food Products (including those listed below) from the following Countries of Supply (CoS):

Country of supply	Food Products Under Mandatory Certification	Food Products Under Voluntary Certification
Egypt	All Food Products of Animal/Vegetable origin (including fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, agricultural crops and spices)	All Other Food Products
India	- Processed Vegetables and Fruits - Red Meat - Rice (Milled) - Sesame Seeds and products thereof - Fresh Fruits and Vegetables - Agricultural Crops - Spices	All Other Food Products
Jordan	All Food Products of Animal/Vegetable origin (including fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, agricultural crops and spices)	All Other Food Products
Sri Lanka	Tea <b>Note:</b> Sri Lankan origin Tea supplied directly from Sri Lanka and from other CoS.	All Other Food Products
UAE	-	All Food Products
Vietnam	-	All Food Products



### 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

# 1

**SHIPMENT COMPLIANCE**



# 1

## 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

- Importers must have an account with the SFDA and the Food Product must be registered. This also applies to Fresh Fruits and Vegetables and their Importers.
- Importers must have a valid Commercial Registration Certificate which includes Food Trade as a registered commercial activity.
- Exporters must be registered with SFDA under Registration of Foreign Establishment
- Exporters of Fresh Fruits and Fresh Vegetables are currently not mandated to be Registered with the Saudi Food and Drugs Authority (SFDA).

#### 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 SFDA.FD/GSO 9 requirements that stresses on both consumer information and respect of the Saudi Customs and Islamic values (offensive imagery, contents shall be avoided).
- Nutritional Labelling must comply with SFDA.FD 2233 which stipulates the guidelines on mandatory nutrient declaration and supplementary nutrition information for certain prepackaged Food products.

#### 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 SFDA.FD standards (SFDA.FD 150-1, SFDA.FD/GSO 150-2) 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 SFDA.FD/GSO 993 and SFDA.FD/GSO 2055-1 with respect to its slaughtering & processing practices.
- Shipping containers for Chilled and Frozen Food Products must comply with SFDA.FD/GSO 323.

#### 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.
- All consignments of Fresh Fruits, Fresh Vegetables, Agricultural Crops, and Spices from Egypt shall be accompanied by a Test Report issued by an ISO/IEC 17025-accredited laboratory stating that the consignment has been tested for the absence of Hepatitis A virus.
- Importer's Commercial Registration Certificate

# 2

## CERTIFICATION PROCESS

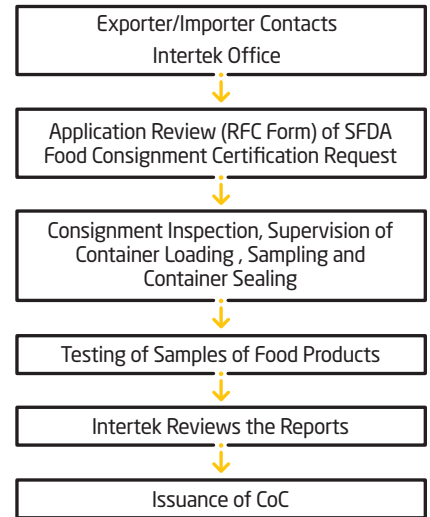
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**CERTIFICATION  
PROCESS**

## 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, inspection and sampling, 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 (Product Registration Number (PRN), Commercial Registration Certificate, Halal Slaughter Certificate, Halal Certificate, etc.) to verify the details of product consignment and its compliance to requirements.

### Inspection and Sampling

The Food consignment will be subject to physical inspection and sampling including verification of product label markings and other physical requirements as per approved SFDA,FD/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 SFDA,FD/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.

# 3

**FEES FOR  
SFDA FCCP**

# 3

## FEES FOR SFDA FCCP



## FEES

The Fee details are as follows:



Description of Service	FOB Value (USD)	Applicable Fees (USD)
Inspection, withdrawal of samples (if applicable) and issuance of the Certificates	1 - 50000	550
	50001 - 100000	650
	100001 - 150000	800
	150001 - 200000	1250
	200001 - 500000	2500
	500001 - above	3500
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. These fees will be separately quoted as required to be performed by Intertek for establishing compliance

### FOR MORE INFORMATION



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## CONTACT



# 4

## CONTACT

### Key:

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