

Animal Products - Official Devices: NZFSA Container Seals

Animal Products (Export Requirements for Branding, Marking and Security Devices) Notice 2006

Date: 30 July 2007

1 Introduction

1.1 Container seal requirements in Manual 15 established seal identification with an alpha-numeric sequence using NZMAF as the alpha component. The abovementioned notice approves container seals, identified using NZFSA for the alpha component, as being of the same status as NZMAF seals. Provided all the ordering, security, manufacture, supply, distribution and device specifications of NZFSA seals are the same (other than the alpha component of the seal identifier being NZFSA) as the NZMAF container seal requirements contained in Manual 15 then the use of NZFSA seals can commence immediately. This applies to both high security bolt (Klicker) seals and Tyden seals.

1.2 The following modification to the existing Klicker seal is acknowledged without being formally approved:

1.2.1 An NZFSA Klicker seal can have an additional cable seal attachment connected to the head of the pin section of the Klicker seal unit for the purposes of compliance with the NZ Customs Secure Export Programme (referred to as SEP or SES). This seal is known as an SEP Mega Lock seal. The cable seal part of the SEP Mega Lock will be compliant with the NZ Customs requirements for SEP seals (colour and identification of the cable hasp). NZ Customs has accepted the colour and identification of the NZFSA Klicker seal unit as equivalent to the Klicker seal unit requirements for SEP seals. Therefore a single NZFSA/SEP Mega Lock can be used to meet both NZFSA and Customs container security requirements.

- 1.2.2 The two seal components (Klicker seal and cable seal) work independently, with neither seal dependant on the other for proper operational use. Also the cable hasp will use “SEP” as the Alpha component for the seal ID; NZFSA has no control over the use of “SEP” on seals. For these reasons NZFSA is not able to specifically approve the cable lock as part of the NZFSA seal approval; the cable seal derives its approval from New Zealand Customs. The Klicker seal part remains the only formally approved NZFSA seal, which is used and referenced for the purposes of supporting official assurances. The numeric component will be identical between the Klicker and cable seals.
- 1.2.3 The two parts of the SEP Mega Lock seal can sometimes become detached from one another. While this is not an intended feature of the Mega Lock seal, and occurrence at a high frequency would constitute a batch fault, it does not compromise the security of either the Klicker or cable seals individually or the security of the container as a whole. However the possibility of detachment is another reason why the Klicker unit is the only NZFSA approved part of the SEP Mega Lock seal.
- 1.2.4 NZ Customs requirements stipulate: SEP Mega Lock seals can only be used by SEP partners. NZFSA Export Standards has no role in compliance with this requirement. Operators, exporters and NZFSA Verification Agency must ascertain and comply with all requirements relating to the supply and use of SEP compliant seals. This may include: implementing any systems required to effectively manage SEP seal use, which may entail procedures which are additional to those required for managing the use of NZFSA seals; and establishing formal or semi-formal arrangements directly with NZ Customs.
- 1.2.5 SEP animal product exporters should contact their local NZFSA Verification Agency office for enquiries regarding the availability of NZFSA/SEP Mega Lock seals.
- 1.3 Overseas country competent authorities have been advised of the change in seal identifier and NZFSA does not expect any problems to arise during border clearance procedures.

2 Transition

2.1 NZFSA has ceased ordering NZMAF seals, however their formal approval under the Animal Products (Export Requirements for Branding, Marking and Security Devices) Notice 2006 will not be revoked in the immediate future until NZFSA and MAF have worked through any ongoing uses for NZMAF container seals on the part of Biosecurity New Zealand or MAF Quarantine Services. It is possible NZMAF seals will have limited approval for Animal Products use: for exports coming under the jurisdiction of Biosecurity New Zealand.

Authorised by:

(Signed)

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