

**IAIS 002.4**

**Specific Country Requirements  
Circular 1995**

## Promulgatory Statement

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This circular:

- is issued pursuant to **Regulation 19** of the Fish Export Processing Regulations 1995
- may be referred to as the *Specific Country Requirements Circular 1995*
- comes into force on 1 May 1995
- applies to all licensees of fish premises.

Andrew McKenzie  
Chief Meat Veterinary Officer  
(acting pursuant to delegated authority)

Malcolm Cameron  
Chairman  
Fishing Industry Inspection  
and Certification Council

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## Explanatory Note

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*This circular is issued under the Fish Export Processing Regulations 1995.*

*This note and other explanatory notes found boxed in bold italics are not part of the circular, but are intended to explain the circular.*

*The circular sets out certain "industry agreed implementation standards" concerning overseas requirements.*

*To comply with the overseas requirements standards set out in Regulation 15(2)(d) of the Regulations, you must comply with this circular.*

*You must still comply with any other relevant law or by-law.*

*If you have any questions about this circular, you should ask your local Inspector.*

## Amendments

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Suggestions are welcomed for alterations, deletions or additions to this circular to improve it or to make it better suited to the needs of the fishing industry and inspection staff. Suggestions should be forwarded to the co-ordinator, together with reasons for the change and any relevant experimental or documentary data.

Amendments do not become part of a circular until they have been issued under the Fish Export Processing Regulations 1995, along with an amendment form. Amendments are numbered in sequence.

Amendments to the circular can be identified by the issue number in the page header and a background screen over the changes which have been made. Deletions are marked with a background screen appearing where the entry has been deleted, e.g. .

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## Amendment Record

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It is important that this circular is kept up-to-date by the prompt incorporation of amendments.

To update this circular when you receive an amendment, remove the appropriate outdated pages, destroy them, and replace them with the pages from the new issue. Complete instructions will be given on the covering letter accompanying the amendment. File the covering letter at the back of the circular and sign off and date this page.

If you have any queries, please ask your local Inspector.

| Issue No. | Date   | Initials | Issue No. | Date | Initials |
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## **Part A**

# **General Requirements**

## 1. Introduction

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### 1.1 Subject Matter of the Circular

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This circular sets out the general criteria for attaining the certification standards referred to in **Regulations 15 and 16**.

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### 1.2 Definitions

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In this circular:

For the purposes of certification, fish are considered to be of New Zealand origin if they:

- are taken from New Zealand Fisheries waters as defined by the Fisheries Act 1983; or
- were caught by a fishing boat that, at the time the fish were caught, was registered as a fishing boat under Section 57 of the Fisheries Act 1983; or
- were legally imported into New Zealand and processed at a fish packing house in accordance with any conditions specified by the Director-General of Agriculture and Fisheries.

**Authorised signatory** means any person appointed as an Inspector by the Minister and known as an "authorised signatory".

**Regulations** means the Fish Export Processing Regulations 1995, and a reference to a Regulation is to a provision of the Regulations.

**Signatory** means:

- any official inspector authorised under Section 9 of IAIS 002.1 to sign certificates; or
- any official veterinarian authorised under Section 9 of IAIS 002.1 to sign certificates; or
- any authorised signatory.

**Your local Inspector** means the Inspector who inspects your premises or the Inspector's deputy.

All words and expressions defined in Regulation 2 of the Fish Export Processing Regulations 1995 have the same meanings when used in the circular, except where the context requires otherwise.

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### 1.3 **Regulatory Requirements**

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#### 1.3.1 The regulations state:

"No fish or fish product intended for human consumption shall be exported from New Zealand unless a certificate in respect of that fish or fish product has been issued pursuant to these regulations and is in force.

No certificate shall be issued under subclause (1) of this regulation unless the fish or fish product —

- (a) Has been processed and packed in fish premises or in an export store that has been licensed for that use; and
- (b) Has been processed, packed, labelled, stored, and transported in accordance with the requirements; and
- (c) In the opinion of the person issuing the certificate the fish or fish product, is fit for human consumption; and
- (d) Meets any overseas requirements that the Director-General has approved and advised to the licensee.

No certificate shall be issued pursuant to these regulations other than by an Inspector.

Any certificate issued under this regulation shall be in an approved form and shall be fully completed in an approved manner before being signed by an Inspector. Any certificate not in accordance with this subclause shall be deemed not to have been issued under this regulation".

#### 1.3.2 Under **Regulation 15(2)(d) of the Regulations**, the overseas requirements that have been approved are laid out in Part B of this circular.

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## 2. Guide to the Layout of this Circular

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### 2.1 Standard Format for Requirements of Specific Countries

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The format shown below is used for all countries.

| Special Features           |                       |                      |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Signatory:</b>          | Authorised Signatory  | <input type="text"/> |
|                            | Official Inspector    | <input type="text"/> |
|                            | Official Veterinarian | <input type="text"/> |
| <b>Prohibited Imports:</b> |                       |                      |
| <b>Endorsements:</b>       |                       |                      |

**Mercury Level**

**Certification**

**Shellfish** (Bivalve Molluscs)

**Labelling**

**Other**

## 2.2 **Special Features Box**

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### 2.2.1 **Certificates**

A ✓ placed in a box indicates that a standard certificate is to be used. Where a specific number is given (e.g. AgM 400), that specific certificate is to be used. A list of all certificates is given in Appendix I.

### 2.2.2 **Signing of certificates**

Only signatories in the following categories shall sign the respective certificates.

#### *Authorised signatory*

# The following persons may sign the AgM 410, AgM 411, AgM 420 and AgM 439 certificates:

- authorised signatories
- official inspectors
- official veterinarians.

#### *Official inspector signatory*

The following persons may sign:

- official inspectors
- official veterinarians.

#### *Official veterinarian signatory*

The following persons may sign:

- official veterinarians.

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## 2.3 **Microbiological Criteria**

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Where microbiological criteria are given:

- n is the number of sample units which must be examined;
- c is the maximum allowable number of defective sampling units; where more than this number are found the consignment is unacceptable;
- m represents an acceptable level and values above it are marginally acceptable or unacceptable;

- M values above M are unacceptable and detection of one or more samples exceeding this level means the consignment is unacceptable.

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## 2.4 Disclaimer

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*The details for each country given in this circular reflect the information available to the FIICC and MAF Regulatory Authority (Meat and Seafood) at the time of preparation and, in some cases, may be an interpretation based on interim information from the country concerned.*

*The FIICC and MAF Regulatory Authority (Meat and Seafood) are pre-pared to provide guidance but accept no responsibility for any inaccuracy, liability, loss or inconvenience resulting from what is essentially an in-formed judgement.*

*Company staff, management and exporters shall ensure that the product for a particular country is prepared in accordance with the requirements of that country, unless specific and documented exemptions are made. The ultimate responsibility for compliance with an importing country's requirements shall lie with the exporter. Consignments prepared according to the stated requirements, and which are subsequently detained or refused entry, shall remain the responsibility of the exporter. The MAF will, however, provide any assistance it can to enable clearance of this product.*

*It is in the interests of exporters and processors to ascertain from the importer any new or additional conditions to be met. Any new regulatory requirements require confirmation from the FIICC and MAF Regulatory Authority (Meat and Seafood) before they can be implemented. In cases where doubt remains, the FIICC or MAF Regulatory Authority (Meat and Seafood) may be contacted for clarification.*

*Note that officials at different entry posts of the same country, or even those at the same post, may place varying interpretation on the requirements. The MAF is unable to protect exporters from such variations.*

*The Fishing Industry Board publishes information on tariff and non-tariff barriers (e.g. import licensing, import quotas). The document "Barriers to New Zealand Seafood Trade" is available from the Fishing Industry Board.*

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