



Vietnam - Certification Requirements

Establishment Approval

All processors shipping product intending to enter commerce in Vietnam must be an Approved Establishment in the Seafood Inspection Program to obtain certification.

Firms desiring to export seafood products to Vietnam are also required to be approved by the Vietnamese authority, NAFIQAD, prior to shipment.

Certification Requirements

Once approved and listed on [the NAFIQAD website](#) firms must request an Export Health certificate from their local NOAA Fisheries Seafood Inspection Office (SIP). Products will be lot inspected prior to certification if the firm is not a participant in the HACCP QMP program with SIP. In December 2011 NAFIQAD (the responsible Vietnamese government agency for receiving imports) audited the United States and its procedures for approving facilities to be on their list of establishments. A draft report came in February 2012. On March 2, 2012 a meeting was held with NAFIQAD in Hanoi and the Seafood Inspection program. The subject of the meeting was NOAA's response and questions regarding the draft audit report and conclusions from NAFIQAD's audit of the USA last December. A final report was issued from the audit in April 2012. All this documentation and discussion led to refinements of the Vietnamese requirements for listing Food Processing Organizations (FPOs) for shipment of seafood products to Vietnam. Those refinements follow:

Brokers are not required to be on the list, only the final processor. Any brokers currently on the list will be removed. Brokers may only ship products to Vietnam that originate from a processor on the list.

It was confirmed NAFIQAD wants the competent authority to send originals of the Appendix 3 forms for each firm requesting approval and listing. This is to be accompanied with the authority's completion of Appendix 1 (Electronic delivery is desired but not possible at this time.). It was requested the firms that have already submitted requests be approved and NOAA will correct their submissions. However NAFIQAD stated this is not possible. Additional information, in the form of the process flow diagram, is required for each submission.

NAFIQAD desires NOAA to inspect and certify the products being sent to Vietnam. Firms should join the Seafood Inspection Program as approved establishments. NAFIQAD requires a pre-shipment clearance process for each shipment to Vietnam. However our Program policies and procedures are understood and NAFIQAD has agreed to its terms. This means that, depending upon your level of participation in our Program, not every shipment must be lot inspected.



A certificate must accompany every shipment to Vietnam. Further the certificate must have the name of the producer on the list. The name of the producer on must be on the label. This includes the primary and shipping containers. Also the labels must be bilingual (stated in Vietnam Circular 13). It was understood product has been entering the country without this being accomplished. However at any time a shipment could be stopped for this reason.

Firms shipping product destined for reprocessing and re-export do not have to be on the list, but a certificate is still required. The statement "Product is intended for reprocessing and re-export only." will be entered on the certificate.

In general, for being approved as a company eligible for exports of animal products to Vietnam by the Seafood Inspection Program, the company must provide all information described in the Appendix 3 (attached) (be sure to include the CFN or FEI number from FDA. The form must be signed by a representative of the company.

Send the completed Appendix 3 and an electronic version of the process flow diagrams for each of the products you want listed to Jenny.Stephenson@noaa.gov. Our agency will sign and stamp the documents and forward the hard copy to Vietnam. An email will also be sent to alert NAFIQAD the forms are on their way and they have agreed to begin processing at that point in order to minimize the time it will take to approve the listing. **(If you are a broker only, you are not required to be listed.)**

If there are any questions please contact Jenny Stephenson CSO HQ staff at Jenny.Stephenson@noaa.gov or 301-427-8307. Link to [Appendix 3 form](#)