
2006 No 44**Announcement of adjusting label examine and approve institution of export-import food, cosmetic products**

In order to implement the administrative arrangements of State Council, to simplify the processing, to make export-import smoother, AQSIQ has decided to adjust the policy on label verification of export-import food and cosmetic product as follows:

1. The label of importing food and cosmetic products has to meet the relevant Chinese laws, regulations and compulsory standards (relevant laws, regulations and standards can be found on www.aqsiq.gov.cn/safety of food and cosmetics label management); the labelling of exported food and cosmetic products has to meet the requirement of importing countries/regions.
2. From 1st April, 2006, the labels of exported and imported food and cosmetic products will be verified during quarantine and inspection of exported and imported food and cosmetics products. The pre-examination and pre-approval of labels are cancelled. The related organizations at every level will not accept applications to pre-examine and pre-approve labels of the food and cosmetics products. The "Exporting/importing food, cosmetics products label certificate" will no longer be required by AQSIQ.
3. The provincial / regional export/import quarantine organization will verify that the imported and exported food and cosmetics labels match the laws, regulations and standards required and the reliability and accuracy of the contents related to product quality. If requirements are met, a certificate document will be issued with "label examined and qualifies".

Before October 1st in 2006, imported food and cosmetic labels which do not meet the requirements of the relevant Chinese laws, regulations and compulsory standards, may allow to have their label corrected under the supervision of AQSIQ. Then the shipment will be released after meeting requirements.

From 1st October, 2006, imported food and cosmetic products, which do not meet the requirements of Chinese relevant laws, regulations and standard, will be treated according to the provisions of Article 19 of <the People's Republic of China import-export productions inspection laws and implemented articles>. Exported food and cosmetic products, which do not meet the requirements of Chinese relevant laws, regulations and standards, will be treated according to the provision of Article 27 of <the People's Republic of China import-export productions inspection laws and implemented articles>.

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4. 《The Certificate of Import (export) food and cosmetics label》 obtained before is still valid. If the imported and exported food label matches the content in the certificate, label verification is not required.

For those (Australian) exporters (or importers in China) who need new certificates due to the new standards on food labelling in < The general rule of the People's Republic of China prepacking food label > (GB 7718-2004) and <The general rules of the People's Republic of China prepacking special food label> (GB13432 – 2004), they need to obtain new certificates according to <The announcement of obtain the new certificates of importing food label inspection certificates> issued by AQSIQ on 9th December 2005. The closing date to change certificates is 1st May 2006. The old certificates are cancelled.

5. Inspection and Quarantine Authorities will charge a fee when they inspect and quarantine the exported and imported food and cosmetic products, including label verification. There is no other fee to be collected on label verification.