



Bulletin 14-31 September 22, 2014

CIAA Bulletin

An Exclusive CIAA Member
Update

Helpful Links to FDA Resources to Speed Determinations on Imported Product

CIAA members have asked us for information about FDA resources that may help members facilitate their imports. While many of these sites will be familiar to several of you, we thought it would be convenient to develop the following comprehensive list that we may update from time to time. As we reported following our meeting with John Moore of FDA's New York office, providing detailed information to FDA can help speed up FDA's determination regarding the possible review of imported cheeses.

FDA Product Codes:

FDA encourages CIAA members to have manufacturer include the correct FDA Product Code on each commercial invoice on a line level basis. The manufacturers should formulate the codes, since they know the product better than any other party. The Process Indicator Coders or PICs are reviewed carefully by the FDA entry reviewers. The PIC (P) should be used for Cultured Cured (raw milk) cheese and PIC (O) should be used for Pasteurized milk cheese.

Information about these codes can be found at:

- [FDA Product Code Tutorial](#)
- [FDA Product Code Builder](#)

FDA Import Alert Updates:

FDA publishes import alerts by Country/Area, Industry, Alert Number, and Last Published Date. This information can be found [here](#).

You may also find it helpful to bookmark the [Import Alert for the Cheese/Cheese Product Industry](#) for quick reference.

Dealing with FDA Document Requests:

FDA has developed [ITACS](#) (Import Trade Auxiliary Communication System). It is

designed to provide importers with three functions: the ability to check the status of FDA-regulated entries and lines, the ability to submit entry documentations electronically, and the ability to electronically submit the location of goods availability for those lines targeted for FDA exam. Providing product flow charts and ingredient lists can be very helpful.

When uploading documents into [FDA's ITACS system](#) when there is a Document Request, it is recommended to send as much information as possible including the commercial documents along with a copy of the products actual label and specification sheets.

Should you have any questions, please contact Roger Szemraj at rszemraj@theciaa.org or (202) 789-1212.

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 1, 2014

Last transmission date to surrender the unused portion of the 2014 calendar year

October 15, 2014

Last transmission date for all applications for calendar year 2015 licenses.

October 18-23, 2014

SIAL Trip, Paris, France

Click [here](#) to register.

November 7, 2014

CIAA Member Meeting & Board Meeting

Location: Saddle Brook Marriott, Saddle Brook, NJ

December 22, 2014 (approximately)

FAS issues first notice of calendar year 2015 licenses to licensees.

December 31, 2014

Last day for licensees to make entries to fulfill the requirement to use 85% of their calendar year 2014 license amount. Last day for which calendar year 2014 licenses are valid.

* If a deadline date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the deadline will be the next business day (Section 6.36(a) of the Dairy Tariff-Rate Import Quota Licensing Regulation). This does not apply to dates of entry for eligibility.

Cheese Importers Association of America

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