



Temporary Sea Container Transitional Facilities

All imported sea containers must be unpacked at MAF approved transitional facilities.

Reasons for a temporary approval

Occasionally (and for a variety of reasons) sea containers will need to be unpacked at locations which either:

- do not meet the requirements of the MAF Standard BMG-STD-TFSCO (Requirements for Transitional Facilities for Sea Containers.); or
- will only be used once.

In these instances MAFQS may issue an approval to allow the location in question to be used as a temporary transitional facility for the unpacking of sea containers.

All temporary transitional facilities must have an Operator who will ensure that all conditions associated with the approval are met.

Eligibility

Examples of containerised consignments that may be considered include (but are not limited to):

- new shop fit outs. (Common when new franchises enter the New Zealand market.)
- new plant and machinery. (Often requires specialised unloading equipment or is of a nature that means minimal 'moves' are desirable.)
- regular importations being assembled in remote locations that will only be used once. (May include irrigation equipment, ski lifts and refrigerated buildings.)
- goods of such a nature that minimal handling is desirable.
- exhibition material that will be used once, repacked, and re-exported.

As a general principle any container going to a temporary facility will be treated in a way that provides risk mitigation equivalent to that of a conforming container going to a regular sea container transitional facility.

In all instances biosecurity considerations will have priority over any logistical or cost implications for the importer.

Specific exclusions

Specifically excluded from this process are:

- sea containers carrying goods of a nature that can be easily unpacked and transported to another location.
- locations that are self-storage facilities. MAFQS wishes to encourage the operators of these facilities to maintain their own sea container unpacking facility registrations.
- sea containers carrying biosecurity risk cargo (e.g. used machinery).

Conditions of a temporary approval

Temporary approvals will:

- have conditions attached relating to the importation.
- apply to a specific location.
- apply to a specific consignment.
- name an Operator.
- have an expiry date.
- be a numbered document signed by a nominated person in MAFQS

The conditions applicable to each Temporary Approval will depend on the:

- origin of the container
- location of the temporary facility
- presence (or otherwise) of restricted wood packaging
- documentation accompanying the consignment
- type of cargo
- existence (or otherwise) of a basic unloading procedure
- existence (or otherwise) of a multiple site unloading procedure
- person who (MAF or an accredited person) will supervise the unpacking

The conditions may include (but are not limited to):

- all containers should be accompanied by a valid Quarantine Declaration.
- the containers should have a 6-sided or 4-sided external inspection on the wharf.
- all containers must be unloaded at the facility in the presence of a trained accredited person or a MAFQS Officer.
- all containers should be unloaded over a surface that can be swept.
- all containers should have a log sheet completed and sent to MAF.

See Appendix 1 for a flow chart showing how these conditions are determined for each consignment

Application process

In all instances an Operator must be nominated. This person will assume the same responsibilities as the Operator of any other transitional facility.

A standard application form will be completed by the importer or agent for each request for temporary approval (see Appendix 2)

This application form is available as a Word document at [temporary approval application](#)

Part of the application will involve providing a basic description of the unloading process on-site including the actions that will be taken if contaminants are found.

This requirement will be waived if:

- the container is unpacked under the supervision of a MAFQS Inspector; or
- the importer has submitted to MAFQS an unloading procedure that will be used at multiple sites. (This is to be approved by the MAFQS National Programme Manager, Sea Containers)

In some circumstances part of the application process will relate to providing proof that a hardstand area exists at the proposed facility. This can be done by submitting digital photographs or by a visit to the site by MAFQS (at the applicants expense).

The application may be submitted to any MAFQS location and can be made up to 2 weeks prior to the arrival of the consignment in New Zealand.

An application for a temporary approval should be submitted by the importer or agent prior to a customs entry being lodged.

If the consignment meets the criteria for a temporary approval MAFQS will notify the applicant.

The applicant will now be advised to make the Customs entry. The answers relating to the container quarantine declaration should be omitted from the entry as this will have the effect of holding the container at the port of arrival (ESCRIP will think the container is non-conforming).

The importer or their agent should then submit the following documentation:

- BACC application coversheet.
- Quarantine declaration.
- Bill of Lading
- invoice or other documentation describing the goods
- any other certification relating to the goods or consignment

In due course the applicant will receive:

- a copy of the temporary authorisation for a transitional facility
- a BACC authorising the external inspection at the port of first arrival and any further actions
- a summary of charges to date or notice of the final amount to be invoiced

A period of 2 working days should be allowed for between making an application and receiving the temporary approval (if it is granted).

The importer or their agent should then monitor the port system in the usual manner to determine the status of the consignment as it passes through the arrival process.

The importer or their agent must then, after taking delivery of the consignment, comply with the conditions of the temporary approval with respect to inspection, MAF supervision and reporting requirements.

Costs

All MAF costs associated with temporary approvals are recoverable.

These may include:

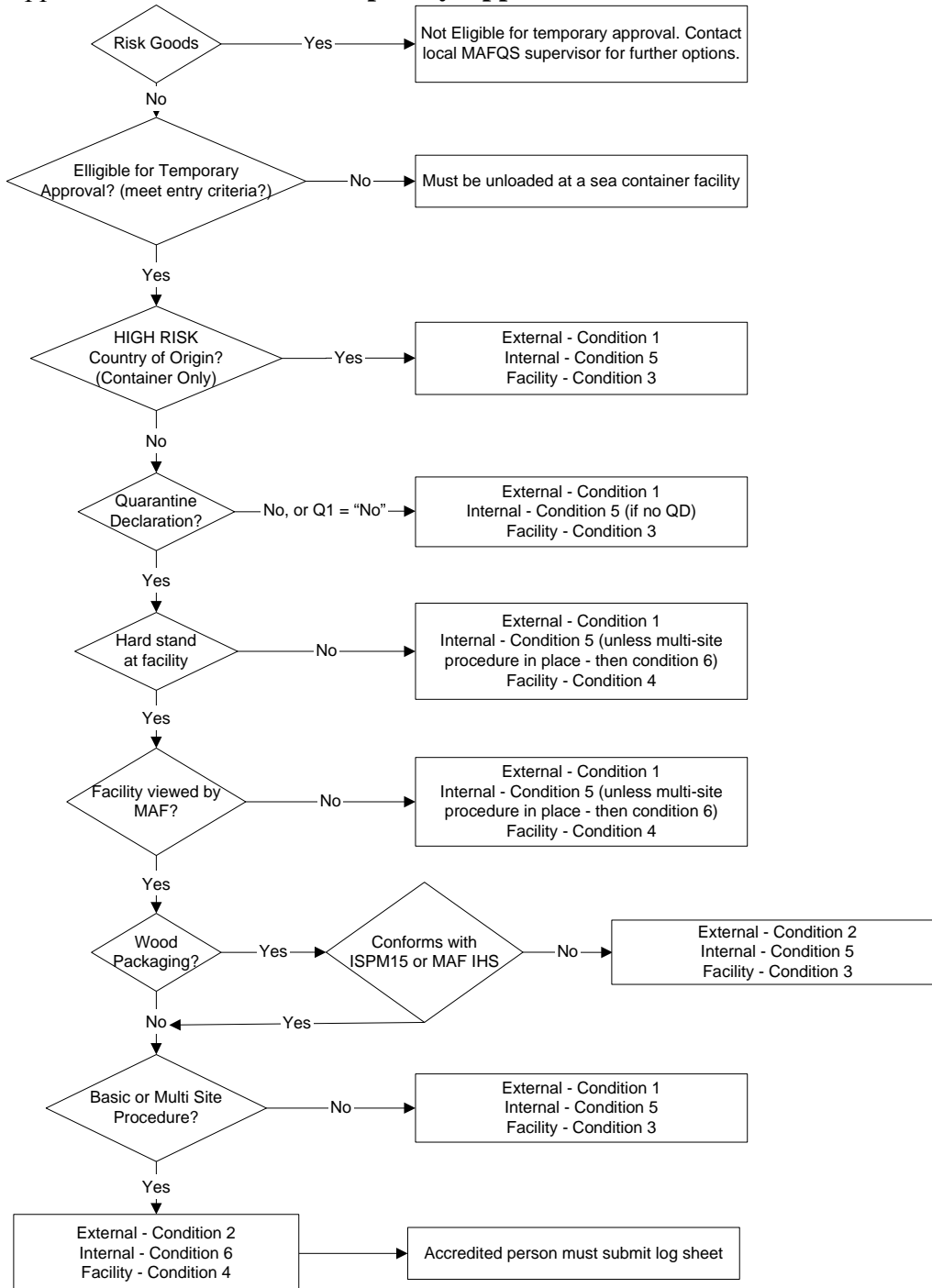
- Time spent processing the application
- Visiting the site prior to approval
- External inspection at the port of arrival
- Supervising the container unpacking

The application for temporary approval must indicate which MAF account holder is to be invoiced.

Appendices

- 1 Flow chart showing how conditions are determined.
- 2 Application form.

Appendix 1: Criteria for Temporary Approval Conditions



CONDITIONS

1. External: MAF 6-sided external inspection at port of arrival.
2. External: MAF 4-sided external inspection at port of arrival.
3. Facility: Must be unpacked on a hard stand.
4. Facility: May be unpacked on any surface, but unloading area in front of doors must be a surface that can be swept (may be a temporary surface).
5. Internal: Must be unpacked under MAF supervision.
6. Internal: May be unpacked under the supervision of an accredited person.

APPLICATION FOR SEA CONTAINER TEMPORARY FACILITY APPROVAL
(Broker/Customs Agent to complete and sign)

Importer:

Broker/Customs Agent: Name:

Company:

Address of temporary facility:

Cargo in containers:

Country of **origin** (Of goods):

Container numbers:

Name of nominated **facility Operator:**

Is **wood packaging** present? Yes / No

If yes – does it meet 15PM15 or NZ MAF IHS requirements? Yes / No

If yes – ISPM15 MAF IHS Treatment certificate available? Yes / No

Is the **area on which the container will be unloaded** sealed? Yes / No

If yes – how will you prove this? MAF visit Photograph Won't prove

Do the containers have valid **Quarantine Declarations**? Yes / No

Are you operating under a **multi-site procedure**? Yes / No

Will a trained Accredited Person be present at unloading? Yes / No

Name and AP Number of the accredited person

Reason for application:

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Final checklist

Have I read the document “Temporary Sea Container Transitional Facilities”
at <http://www.maf.govt.nz/quarantine/cargo/index.htm>

I agree that MAF will charge for their activities associated with this temporary approval

I attach the basic procedure

My contact details are: Phone:

Email:

Name of applicant:

Signature of applicant:

Date:

Fax this application to any MAFQS location: <http://www.maf.govt.nz/quarantine/contact/index.htm>