



MEMORANDUM

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| To | RMP operators, Industry Councils and Associations representing operators under the Animal Products Act |
| CC | |
| Date | 13 November 2009 |
| From | Carol Barnao Director (Standards) (Acting pursuant to delegated authority) |
| Subject | Recognition for Heat Treatment Code of Practice to form part of a Risk Management Programme |

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Under to section 12 (3A) of the Animal Products Act 1999 a Risk Management Programme may be based on, in whole or in part of a code of practice where, in the view of the Director-General, that code is valid and appropriate to the type of business for which it is intended to apply.

The Heat Treatment Code of Practice has been assessed and recognised to be valid and appropriate as a means of partially fulfilling the requirements of a Risk Management Programme for manufacture of dairy material and dairy product.

Under this recognition a registered Risk Management Programme may adopt the Heat Treatment Code of Practice as the means of demonstrating that risks are being appropriately managed in respect of dairy processing activities.

Background

The Heat Treatment Code of Practice has been amended by the NZFSA in consultation with industry to satisfy requirements under the Animal Products Act 1999. The Heat Treatment Code of Practice applies to heat treatment of dairy material and dairy products intended for further processing and sale in or export from New Zealand. It covers the approval, design, fabrication, installation, layout and operation of heat treatment equipment and systems to ensure the standard of performance is sufficient to ensure dairy material and dairy products are fit for their intended purpose.

The Heat Treatment Code of Practice is intended to assist operators develop a Risk Management Programme (RMP) that covers the heat treatment of dairy material and dairy products.

Additional criteria may apply to operators producing dairy material and dairy products that is required to meet export requirements issued under Part 5 of the Animal Products Act 1999.

This code will be reviewed, as necessary, by the New Zealand Food Safety Authority. If you have any suggestions for alterations, deletions or additions to this code, details should be sent, together with reasons for the change, any relevant data and contact details for the person making the suggestion, to the contact details below:

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Application

When referenced as part of the Risk Management Programme, the Heat Treatment Code of Practice applies to the siting, design, fabrication, construction, facilities, services and equipment associated with heat treatment equipment and systems.

This code of practice has been developed for dairy processors producing dairy material and dairy product intended to be eligible for export. However, some markets may have additional requirements that must be satisfied, and it is the responsibility of the dairy exporter to ensure that such requirements are met, and can be shown to be met, in a satisfactory manner.

This code may also be used by dairy processors producing dairy material and dairy products intended for the domestic market either by direct inclusion (in whole or in part) in the Risk Management Programme, or as supporting guidance.

Disclaimer

Considerable effort has been made to ensure that the information provided in the Heat Treatment Code of Practice is accurate, up to date, and otherwise adequate in all respects. Nevertheless, this Code of Practice is approved STRICTLY on the basis that the Crown, the New Zealand Food Safety Authority, its statutory officers, employees, agents, and all other persons involved with the writing, editing, approval or publication of, or any other kind of work in connection with the Heat Treatment Code of Practice:

1. disclaim any and all responsibility for any inaccuracy, error, omission, or any other kind of inadequacy, deficiency, or flaw in, or in relation to, the Heat Treatment Code of Practice; and
2. without limiting a) above, fully exclude any and all liability of any kind, on the part of any and all of them, to any person or entity that applies the Heat Treatment Code of Practice.