

# Exports of Wild-Harvested Shrimps and Shrimp Products from Singapore to the USA

I&E Notice No. 4/96

30 Apr 96

To: All Traders, Freight Forwarders,  
Cargo Agents and Carriers

## Control for the Export of Shrimps and Shrimp Products to the USA

We wish to inform you that with effect from 1 May 96, all exporters of the following shrimps and shrimp products:

1. HS 0306. 13000 Shrimps and prawns, frozen;
2. HS 0306. 23100 Shrimps and prawns, live fresh or chilled;
3. HS 0306. 23900 Shrimps and prawns, dried, salted or in brine;
4. HS 1605. 20000 Shrimps and prawns, prepared or preserved.

to the USA are required to submit a **Shrimp Exporter's/Importer's Declaration (DSP-121)** attesting that the shrimps and shrimp products accompanying the Declaration were harvested either under conditions that do not adversely affect turtles or in waters subject to the jurisdiction of a nation which has been declared "certified" pursuant to Section 609 of U.S. Public Law 101-162. For your reference, a specimen copy of the DSP -121 together with the instructions issued by the U.S. Department of State is available in our TDB office.

## Section 609 of U.S. Public Law 101-162

Under Section 609 of US Public Law 101-162 ("Section 609 "), shrimps are allowed to be imported into the USA where there is an annual certification to Congress that the harvesting nation has a regulatory program and an incidental take rate comparable to that of the USA or, alternatively, that the fishing environment in the harvesting nation does not pose a threat to the incidental taking of sea turtles.

Singapore does not harvest shrimps commercially and is not certified under Section 609 of U.S. Public Law 101-162.

## Objective of USA's Shrimps Program

The USA's Shrimps Program ensures that commercial shrimp trawler vessels use turtle-excluder devices (TEDs) approved in accordance with standards established by the USA's National Marine Fisheries Service for the harvesting of shrimps. TEDs are metal grills or net grids that have an opening in the top or bottom of the net that will allow turtles to escape. The objective of this program is to protect sea turtle populations from further decline by reducing the incidental mortality of sea turtles in commercial shrimp trawl operations.

The species of turtle identified as being endangered are the Kemp's ridley, hawksbill, green, leatherback and loggerhead turtles.

## Shrimps Harvested in a Manner Not Harmful to Sea Turtles

The U.S. Department of State has determined that the import prohibitions imposed will not

apply to shrimps or shrimp products harvested under the following conditions, under which sea turtles are not adversely affected:

1. Shrimps harvested in an aquaculture facility in which the shrimps spend at least 30 days in ponds prior to being harvested;
2. Shrimps harvested by commercial shrimp trawl vessels using TEDs comparable in effectiveness to those required in the United States;
3. Shrimps harvested exclusively by means that do not involve the retrieval of fishing nets by mechanical devices or by vessels using gear that, in accordance with the U.S. program, would not require TEDs;
4. Species of shrimps, such as the pandalid species, harvested in areas in which sea turtles do not occur.

### **Procedures for the Export of Shrimps and Shrimp Products for Re-export From Singapore**

With the implementation of the **U.S. requirement for import of shrimps into the U.S.** you are required to submit the **original copy of the Shrimp Exporter's/Importer's Declaration (DSP-121) to your U.S. importer for the clearance of the goods** for the export of shrimps and shrimp products which were re-exported from Singapore. The original copy of the Shrimp Exporter's/Importer's Declaration (DSP-121) must be signed by the harvesting nation asserting that the accompanying shrimps and shrimp products were harvested under conditions that do not adversely affect the sea turtle. There is no change to the local documentation procedures and requirements for the export of the shrimps and shrimp products. You can as usual apply for your Export Permits through TradeNet for the export of the shrimps and shrimp products from Singapore to the U.S.

### **Procedures for Export of Shrimp Products which are Substantially Transformed to Qualify As Of Singapore Origin**

For exports of shrimp products which are substantially transformed to be as of Singapore origin, you are required to submit to TDB:

1. the Export Cargo Clearance Permit for the shipment;
2. original **Shrimp Exporter's/Importer's Declaration (DSP-121)** signed by the Government authority of the harvesting nation asserting that the shrimps from which the shrimp products were manufactured were harvested under conditions which do not adversely affect sea turtles; and
3. 3 copies of the **Shrimp Exporter's/Importer's Declaration (DSP-121)** duly completed by the Singapore exporter

at the Imports and Exports Office, #08-00 Bugis Junction Office Tower, 230 Victoria Street.

TDB will certify the **Shrimp Exporter's/Importer's Declaration (DSP-121)** if the documents (a) to (c) are in order. Please note that the **original** Shrimp Exporter's/Importer's Declaration (DSP-121) endorsed by TDB must accompany all shipments of shrimp products into the USA.

If you have further enquiries, please contact the Customs Call Centre at Tel No. 63552000.

PHUA KIA CHEW  
for TRADE DEVELOPMENT BOARD