

Importing Meat, Poultry & Egg Products Into the United States

Presented by: Food Safety & Inspection Service, Office of International Affairs, Import Inspection Division



INTRODUCTION

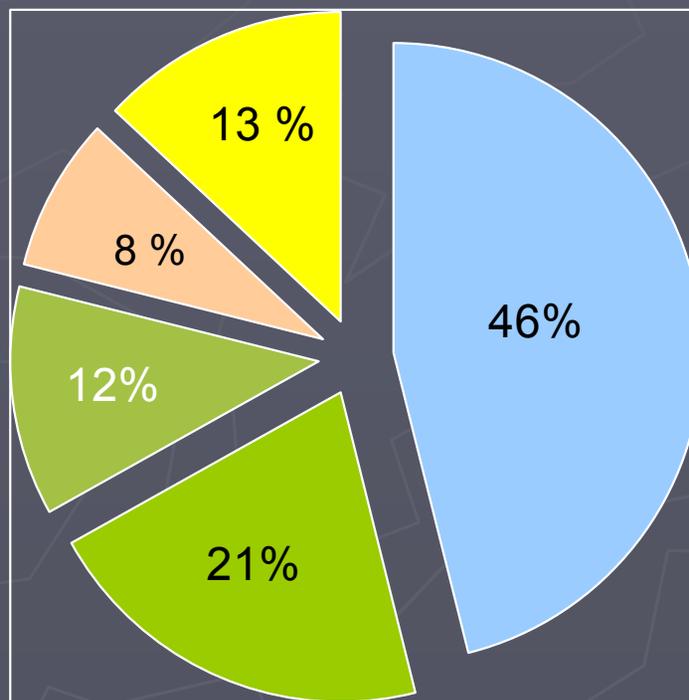
In FY2006, the United States imported approximately 3.9 billion pounds of meat and poultry from 29 eligible foreign countries actively exporting.

- 83.8 % Fresh Red Meat
 - ▶ manufacturing, carcasses and cuts
- 2.1% Fresh Poultry
- 14.1 % Processed Meat/Poultry
 - ▶ primarily ready-to-eat

INTRODUCTION

% Meat and Poultry Imported into U.S. FY 2006

■ Canada ■ Australia ■ New Zealand ■ Uruguay ■ Other



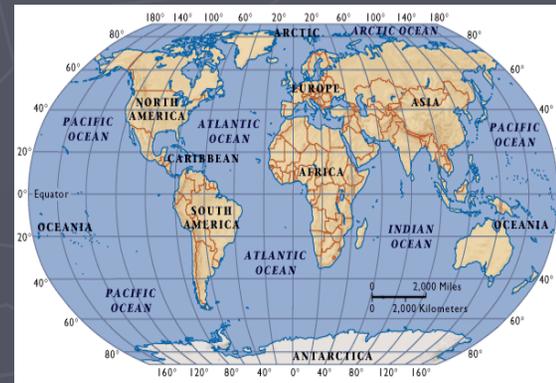
INTRODUCTION

In FY2006, the United States imported approximately 5.9 million pounds of egg products from Canada.

- ▶ 59.9 % Pasteurized
 - Liquid
 - Frozen
- ▶ 38.6 % Unpasteurized
 - Liquid
 - Frozen
- ▶ 1.5 % Dried

Foreign Country Eligibility

- ▶ Equivalence: The concept that different sanitary measures may be used to achieve the same level of food safety
- ▶ Countries are not required to adopt an identical inspection system, rather they must have an equivalent one



Foreign Country Eligibility

- ▶ Countries wishing to become eligible to export meat, poultry, or egg products to the United States must make a formal request by letter to :

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)
International Policy Staff
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington D.C. 20250
Telephone (202) 720-6400



Foreign Country Eligibility

- ▶ The evaluation of a country's inspection system to determine eligibility involves two steps:
 - Document Review
 - On-Site Review



Foreign Country Eligibility

- ▶ Document Review: Evaluation of the country's laws, regulations and other written information
- ▶ Focuses on five risk areas:
 - Contamination
 - Disease
 - Processing
 - Residues
 - Compliance and Economic Fraud



Foreign Country Eligibility

- ▶ On Site Review: Technical team will visit the country to evaluate the five risk areas as well as:
 - Plant Facilities and Equipment
 - Laboratories
 - Training Programs
 - In Plant Inspection Operations



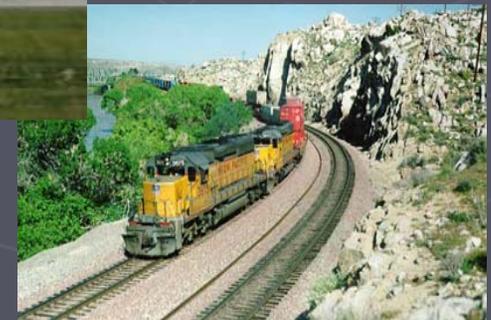
Foreign Country Eligibility

- ▶ If FSIS judges the system equivalent to the U.S. inspection system, FSIS promulgates rules which, when completed, result in the listing of the country in Federal regulations, 9CFR 327.2 for meat and 9CFR 381.196 for poultry, as eligible to import into the United States
- ▶ The foreign country's inspection system is then responsible for certifying individual exporting establishments

Entry into the United States

- ▶ Meat, Poultry & Egg products entering the U.S. usually are transported in the following ways:

- Container Vessel
- Bulk Vessel
- Air Freight
- Truck
- Rail Car



Entry Into the United States

U.S. Customs & Border Protection
U.S. Department of Homeland Security **CBP.gov**

- ▶ U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP)
 - Importers into the U.S. must file a customs entry form with the appropriate port director of the U.S. Customs & Border Protection, U.S. Department of Homeland Security
 - Importers are required to post a "bond", usually an amount to cover the value of the shipment plus duties and fees. Shipments remain under bond and subject to re-delivery by the U.S. Customs & Border Protection until FSIS releases the shipment



www.cbp.gov

Entry into the United States



U.S. Food and Drug Administration

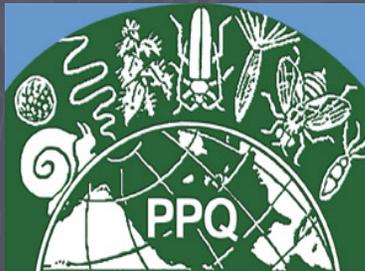


- ▶ Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
 - FDA is responsible for Seafood, Denatured Animal Food Products and Meat and Poultry Products not amenable to FSIS
 - Examples of non-amenable products subject to the requirements of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic act are as follows:
 - ▶ Certain products containing meat or poultry in small amounts (less than or equal to 3%)
 - ▶ Dried soup mixes containing red meat in any amount
 - ▶ Species under Voluntary Inspection
 - ▶ Reference 9 CFR 381.15

www.fda.gov

Entry into the United States

- ▶ Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
 - Responsible for controlling animal health issues
 - Restricts some products from entering the United States because of animal disease conditions in the country of origin
 - Contact APHIS Veterinary Services, National Center for Import and Export



www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ncie/

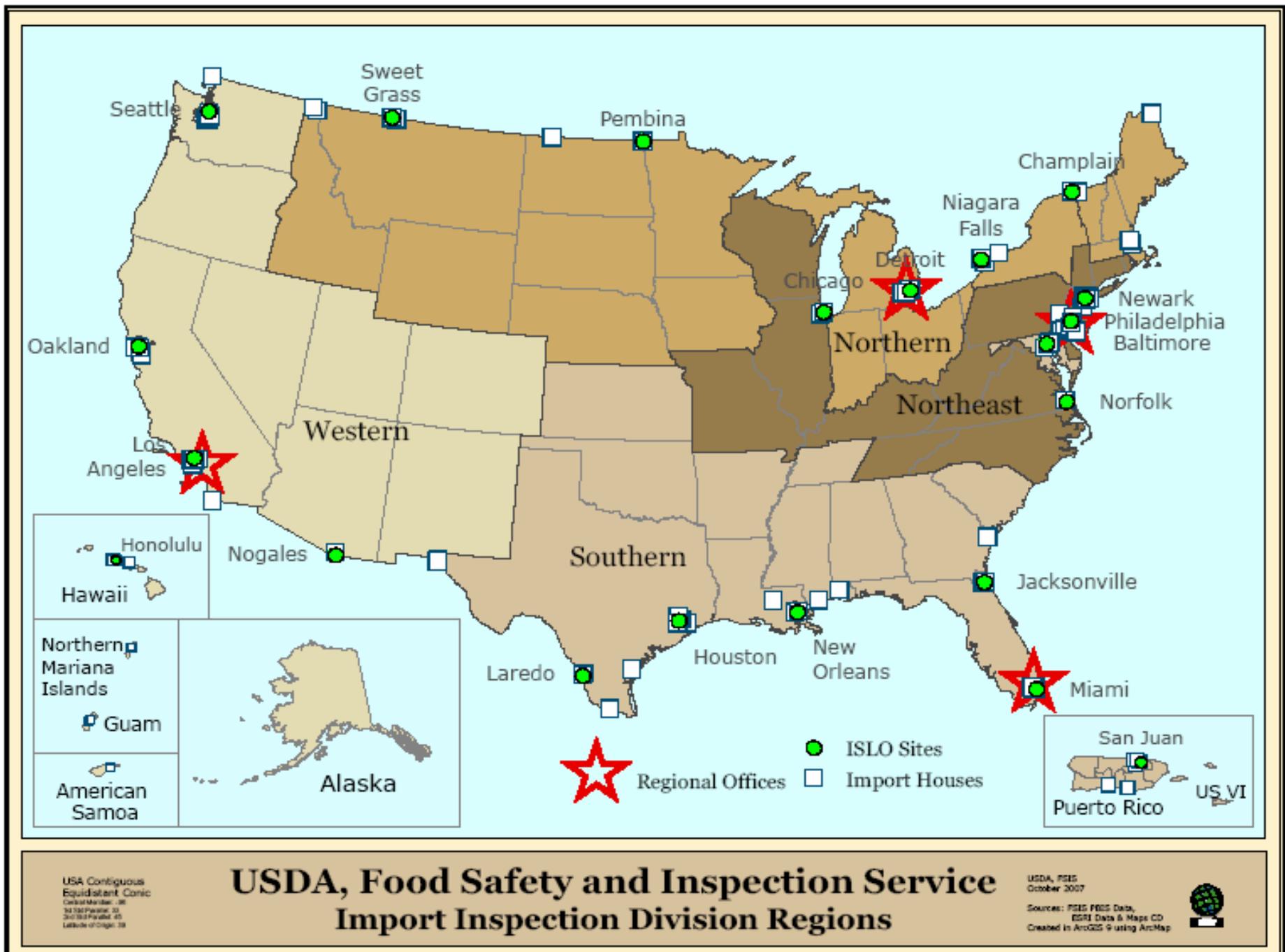


Entry into the United States

- ▶ Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)
 - Responsible for public health issues concerning meat, poultry and egg products
 - Office of International Affairs (OIA), Import Inspection Division (IID) is responsible for imported meat, poultry & egg products along with imported un-denatured inedible meat products intended for other than human consumption

The logo for the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is displayed in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly shadowed, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The background of the slide features a faint, stylized map of the United States.

www.fsis.usda.gov



USDA, Food Safety and Inspection Service Import Inspection Division Regions

USA Contiguous
Equidistant Conic
Central Meridian: 96
Standard Parallels: 33
20 10 10 Parallel: 45
Latitude of Origin: 33

USDA, FSES
October 2007

Sources: FSES FSES Data,
ESRI Data & Maps CD
Created in ArcGIS 9 using ArcMap



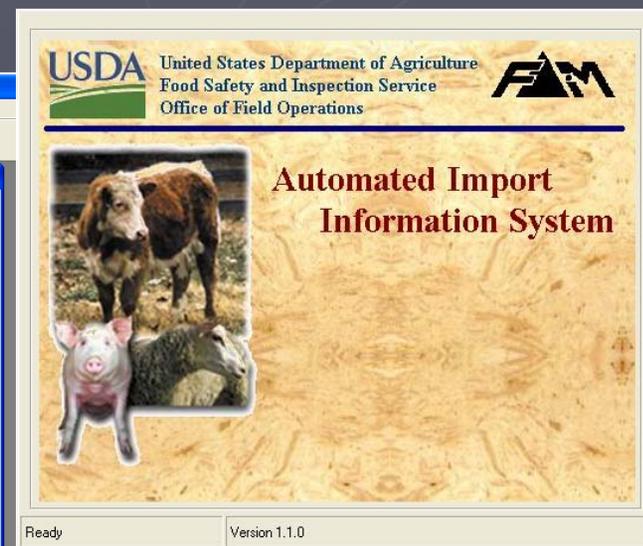
Automated Import Information System (AIIS)

- ▶ The import establishment representative is expected to deliver the 9540-1 to the FSIS inspector the day it is received
- ▶ The FSIS Import Inspector will initially enter the information from the faxed 9540-1 into the Automated Import Information System (AIIS)

The screenshot shows the 'Initial Entry Worksheet' window of the AIIS software. The window title is 'AIIS-3 Robert J Berczik, Jr - Head Quarter User.' The interface includes a menu bar (File, Tools, Administration, Reports, Help) and a toolbar with various icons. The main form is divided into several sections:

- Lot Identifiers:** Fields for Lot ID, Shipping Mark (01), Health Certificate, Custom Entry #, Production Date, and E. Coli D157:H7 checkbox. Includes Package Type, Nbr. Of Units, Package Amt., and Net Weight dropdowns.
- Inspector's Information:** Fields for Employee's ID, Received by (682), Assigned by, Forwarded by, 2nd Received by, and Inspected by, each with a date dropdown set to 10/17/2004.
- Broker:** Broker ID field and a Copy button.
- I-Houses:** Point of Entry (ADMINIST) and Reinspection fields, with an Forward button.
- Process Categories:** A dropdown menu.
- Other fields:** Country, Establishment, Exporter Information, Producer Information, Species, Contain Species, and Process Sub-Categories.

Buttons at the bottom include 'Add Lot', 'Add Shipment', and 'Close'.



Automated Import Information System (AIIS)

- ▶ Centralized computer database that generates TOI (Type of Inspection) and stores re-inspection results
 - Links ports of entry
 - Tracks results from each country 
 - Tracks results from each establishment



Automated Import Information System (AIIS)

- ▶ System is able to confirm eligibility of country under both public health and animal health regulations
- ▶ Applies different frequencies of re-inspection for each type of inspection performed
- ▶ Has the ability to increase/decrease re-inspection of products by country or establishment
 - Performance-based
 - Compliance history of country and establishment

“Type of Inspection” (TOI) assigned by AIIS

- ▶ “Skipped”
- ▶ Skipped loads are not staged, rather the inspector has the truck/trailer doors opened and without entering the vehicle observes:
 - Proper certification/documentation
 - Labeling
 - General condition
 - Transportation damage



"Skipped" Assignment

Initial Entry Worksheet

Lot Identifiers

Lot ID: **60433738** Package Type: Packages

Shipping Mark: MON35512A 01 Nbr. Of Units: 350

Health Certificate: 4273004 Package Amt.: 1

Custom Entry #: 11327975097 Net Weight: 21000

Production Date: [] [V] [X]

E. Coli O157:H7: Partial Reject

Country: Australia Establishment: 0952

Exporter Information: Australia 0952

Same as Exporter Country: Australia Establishment: 0952

Producer Information: Australia 0952

Product Description: FRZ BLESS BEEF

Species: Beef Contain Species: Beef --- Get Assignment ---

Dominant Species: Red Meat **Skipped** Completed

Process Categories: 03C

Process Sub-Categories: Trimmings

Inspector's Information

Employee's ID:

Received by: 1141 8/11/2004

Assigned by: 9723 9/17/2004

Forwarded by: 10/17/2004

2nd Received by: 10/17/2004

Inspected by: 10/17/2004

Broker

Broker ID: 113 Copy

I-Houses

Point of Entry: 00013 I Reinspection: Forward

Display Assign. Physical Results Lab Results

Unassign Lot Add Lot Update Close

“Type of Inspection” (TOI) assigned by AIIS

► “Inspection” Physical Examinations

- Product Examinations
- Net weight checks
- Condition of container
- Incubation
- Pink juice exam (cooked beef)
- Species Identification
- Field Test (SIFT)



“Type of Inspection” (TOI) assigned by AIIS

▶ “Inspection” Laboratory Examinations

- Microbiological Contamination:
 - ▶ E. coli 0157:H7 (raw & ready-to-eat (RTE) products)
 - ▶ Listeria (RTE)
 - ▶ Salmonella (RTE)
- Residues (Chemical & Pesticide)
- Food Chemistry
- Species Identification
- Pathology



"Inspection" Assignment

Initial Entry Worksheet

Lot Identifiers

Lot ID: **60456734** Package Type: Packages

Shipping Mark: 20767 01 Nbr. Of Units: 700

Health Certificate: 20767 Package Amt.: 1

Custom Entry #: G4002285729 Net Weight: 42000

Production Date: [] [V] [X] Partial Reject

E. Coli O157:H7:

Country: Establishment:

Exporter Information: New Zealand ME 0100

Same as Exporter Country: Establishment:

Producer Information: New Zealand ME 0100

Product Description: FROZEN BONELESS BEEF

Species: Beef Contain Species: Beef **Inspection** --- Get Assignment ---

Dominant Species: Red Meat Process Categories: 03C

Process Sub-Categories: Trimmings

Inspector's Information

Employee's ID:

Received by: 9647 9/18/2004

Assigned by: 9647 10/7/2004

Forwarded by: 10/17/2004

2nd Received by: 10/17/2004

Inspected by: 10/17/2004

Broker

Broker ID: G40

I-Houses

Point of Entry: 00020 I Reinspection:

Inspection Assignment Worksheet

Inspector Assignment Sheet

91% | 1 of 3

Shipment Information:

Shipping Mark: 20767 - 01	Lot ID: 60456734	Producer Country: New Zealand
Description: FROZEN BONELESS BEEF		Producer Estab. # ME 0100
Species: Beef	Production Date: N/A	Received: 9/18/2004 10:02:31 AM
Process Category: OSC	Table: SP5	Assigned: 10/7/2004 5:27:49 PM
Process Subcategory: Trimmings		Inspected: N/A
Package Type: Packages	Nbr. Of Units: 700	Package Amount: 1
Net Weight: 42000	Assign Location: ADMINIST	Custom #: G4002285729

Assignments:

Type Of Inspection	Results		
	Passed	Failed	N/A
Boneless Meats for Manufacturing (Product Examination)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CHC (Residue A) (Laboratory- Residue)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chlorinated Organo Phosphates (COP) (C) (Laboratory- Residue)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Phenylbutazone (S) (Laboratory- Residue)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Close

“Levels of Inspection” assigned by AIIS

- ▶ Re-inspection occurs at one of three levels:
 - **“Normal” level:**
 - ▶ Lots are re-inspected according to statistical schedule
 - ▶ Targeted number of lots is based on imported lots presented by country, species and process category the previous year
 - ▶ Lots are not held by FSIS at Port of Entry (POE) pending receipt of laboratory results

“Levels of Inspection” assigned by AIIS

- **“Increased” level:**

- ▶ Above the “Normal” level of sampling
- ▶ Agency management decision rather than from a failed TOI
- ▶ Lots are not usually held by FSIS at POE. However, the importer may place the shipment on “voluntary hold” pending receipt of laboratory results

“Levels of Inspection” assigned by AIIS

- **“Intensified” level:**
 - ▶ Level of re-inspection for a TOI when a lot fails to meet U.S. requirements
 - ▶ Subsequent shipments (from the same establishment and process category) are held by FSIS pending test results
 - ▶ “Physical” type of inspection (TOI)
 - Minimum-10 consecutive lots
 - ▶ “Laboratory” type of inspection (TOI)
 - Minimum-15 consecutive lots and/or 15 times the weight of the failed lot

Entry into the United States

- ▶ Prior to entry into the U.S., an employee of the Canadian exporting establishment will complete the Import Inspection Application (FSIS Form 9540-1) and fax it  directly to the U.S. border import facility of their choice
 - Any approved FSIS Import Establishment can be identified for conducting the re-inspection however; the inspection assignment **must** be obtained at a border inspection facility
- ▶ Upon receipt of the faxed 9540-1:
 - Shipments must be presented for FSIS re-inspection within 72 hours (three working days)
 - Or the exporting establishment must notify the designated import establishment when the shipment will arrive



Entry into the United States

- ▶ Canadian shipments that do not cross into the U.S. by truck are not expected to adhere to the 72 hour rule
- ▶ Exporters of shipments by air, water, or rail car are required to:
 - Fax FSIS Form 9540-1 to the designated import facility
 - Include an estimated time of arrival (ETA) in the remarks section of the 9540-1
- ▶ FSIS Import personnel will:
 - Verify the presence of an ETA on the 9540-1
 - Return the form to import facility representatives for a declaration of an ETA for the shipment



Amendments to Faxed 9540-1

- ▶ Canadian exporters are encouraged to fax FSIS Form 9540-1 as close as possible to the time of the shipment arrival to the designated FSIS import facility
- ▶ Additional lots may be added to the Canadian health certificate:
 - An amended 9540-1 must be presented to FSIS with the shipment
 - This may cause delays at the import establishment due to corrections made to the AIIS database



Amendments to Faxed 9540-1

- ▶ Once the 9540-1 has been faxed, changes of the designated import facility are **not** allowed except:
 - ▶ Emergency situations:
 - Emergency situations are defined as fires, explosions, chemical spills, bombings, bomb threats and natural disasters
 - Reference FSIS Directive 4791.6
 - ▶ Closing of the border crossing:
 - Closings due to actions of Canadian or U.S. government authorities
 - ▶ OIA must be consulted prior to amending any application in these instances
 - After receiving permission, shipments may proceed to the newly designated import facility



Cancellation of Shipments



- ▶ Shipments in which FSIS has received prior notification must be cancelled in the following manner:
 - The Canadian exporter must notify the FSIS Inspector, in writing, at the designated FSIS import facility
 - Written notification must be received prior to the 72 hour limit
- ▶ Failure to notify FSIS of a cancelled shipment may result in delays for subsequent shipments
- ▶ When a shipment is cancelled the Canadian health certificate cannot be used again
 - Product must be re-certified by the Canadian Inspection Service



Entry into the United States

- ▶ Upon the shipments entry into the United States from Canada:
 - The official documents must be presented to the Import Inspector at any FSIS import establishment along the U.S. – Canadian border
 - ▶ This establishment may differ from the designated re-inspection establishment identified in Blocks 12 and 13 on FSIS Form 9540-1
 - ▶ If any portion of shipment is designated an “inspection”, the shipment **must** proceed to the originally designated import facility for re-inspection



“Intensified” for Laboratory Failures

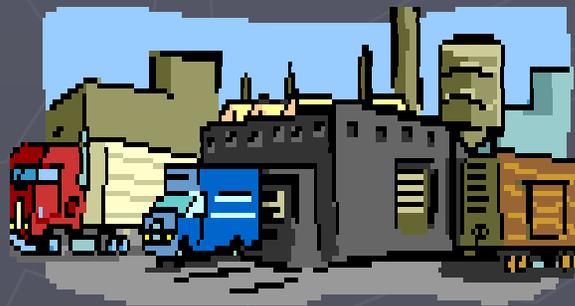
- ▶ Canadian establishments on “Intensified” for any laboratory failure have two options in regards to sampling:
 - The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) may certify the results on the health certificate*
 - ▶ The health certificate would need to be faxed with the 9540-1 to the FSIS Import Inspector
 - The Canadian establishment may elect to have FSIS sample and hold the product at the designated FSIS import facility pending the outcome of the laboratory analysis

* **Exempting port-of-entry testing for ground or comminuted beef and/or veal product for E.coli O157:H7, based on certification from the foreign inspection service, is not an option at this time**



FSIS Import Re-Inspection

- ▶ Canadian imported meat, poultry and egg products that pass FSIS re-inspection are allowed to enter U.S. commerce for distribution and use as if they were produced domestically



FSIS Import Re-Inspection

- ▶ Outside containers of imported meat, poultry and egg products that fail to meet U.S. requirements are stamped “United States Refused Entry” and, within 45 days:
 - Must be exported from the US
 - Destroyed
 - Converted to animal food
 - ▶ If eligible
 - ▶ With the approval of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

**UNITED STATES
REFUSED ENTRY**

Failure to Present (FTP)

- ▶ It cannot be overemphasized that the exporting establishment will be held responsible for failure to present (FTP)
- ▶ It is the responsibility of the exporting establishment to ensure that all shipments:
 - Stop at the FSIS import establishment located on the U.S. – Canadian border for an assignment by the AIIS
 - Proceed to the FSIS import establishment for re-inspection of the shipment
 - ▶ If different than the facility designated on the faxed copy of FSIS Form 9540-1

Failure to Present (FTP)

▶ Penalties for failure to present (FTP)



- Severe monetary penalties can be imposed against the Importer of Record by Customs & Border Protection (DHS-CBP)
- In addition, the following actions will be taken against the Canadian exporting facility:
 - ▶ For the first and second violation, USDA will issue a warning letter to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), requesting a review of the incident and a report of the findings
 - ▶ If a third violation occurs within a two-year period, USDA will **suspend the eligibility** of the Canadian establishment to export to the U.S. and request CFIA to conduct an investigation of the incident and report findings and corrective actions

References

FSIS International Web Site

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/IPS/>

Import Manual of Procedures

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/op/IIM/TOCIIM.htm>

Contact Information

Office of International Affairs
Import Inspection Division

(202) 720-9904

importinspection@fsis.usda.gov