

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, DC

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<b>FSIS NOTICE</b>	13-19	5/8/19
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**NON-COMPLIANT LOGOS APPEARING ON SHIPPING CONTAINERS OF PRODUCT  
EXPORTED FROM MEXICO**

**I. PURPOSE**

This notice provides instructions to inspection program personnel (IPP) regarding certain non-compliant logos that have been observed on shipping containers of product exported from Mexico to the United States.

**II. BACKGROUND**

FSIS has recently become aware of an issue involving logos appearing on shipping containers of product exported from Mexico. Specifically, the words “Food & Safety” and “Certified” that appear at the top and bottom of the logo (See [Attachment 1](#)) are not permitted. Products entering the U.S. are required to be safe and wholesome and meet FSIS domestic labeling requirements per 9 CFR 327 and 381 Subpart T. The use of the words “Food & Safety” and “Certified” in the logo pictured in the [Attachment A](#) could imply that products without the logo are not safe and wholesome. FSIS is working with Central Competent Authority in Mexico to resolve this issue.

Rather than refusing entry of product from Mexico in shipping containers bearing this logo at this time, FSIS will allow use of these shipping containers until existing labeling stocks are exhausted or up until this notice expires in one year, whichever happens first. Within one year of this issuance, the logo should be brought into compliance by removing the aforementioned words that are not permitted.

**III. INSPECTION PROGRAM PERSONNEL RESPONSIBILITES**

A. To avoid having to issue temporary label approvals to a large number of importers or tie up product at the official import inspection establishment, IPP are not to fail the label verification type of inspection (TOI) at this time for products observed in shipping containers bearing the non-compliant logo.

B. For any shipments that have been refused entry for bearing the non-compliant logo, IPP are to use the “Appeal Refuse Entry” process in PHIS to close out the refused entry. The status for the entry should change to “Removed After Appeal”.

C. IPP who are not familiar with this process are to contact their supervisor for assistance. IPP are to refuse entry of product in shipping containers bearing an uncorrected logo beginning the day this notice expires.

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**DISTRIBUTION:** Electronic

**NOTICE EXPIRES:** 5/1/20

**OPI:** OPPD

#### IV. QUESTIONS

Refer questions regarding this notice to the Office of Policy and Program Development through [askFSIS](#). When submitting a question, use the **Submit a Question** tab and enter the following information in the fields provided:

Subject Field: Enter **Notice 13-19**.  
Question Field: Enter question with as much detail as possible.  
Product Field: Select **Import** from the drop-down menu.  
Category Field: Select **Labeling Compliance for Imported Products** from the drop-down menu.  
Policy Arena: Select **International (Import/Export)** from the drop-down menu.

When all fields are complete, press **Continue** and at the next screen press **Finish Submitting Question**.

**NOTE:** Refer to [FSIS Directive 5620.1](#), *Using askFSIS*, for additional information on submitting questions.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alexander J. Wagner".

Assistant Administrator  
Office of Policy and Program Development

Images of the non-compliant logos on the shipping containers of certain products that are exported from Mexico:

