



Announcement

April 5, 2016

Registration Requirement Under Korea's Special Act on Imported Food Safety Management

Effective February 4, 2016, the Ministry of Food & Drug Safety (MFDS) of the Republic of Korea implemented the Special Act on Safety Management of Imported Food (Act). The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) is part of an interagency group that is working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service personnel stationed in Korea, who continue to engage with Korean authorities as they implement the Act. TTB will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as the Act's implementation unfolds.

The Act requires all foreign food facilities and livestock establishments, including alcohol production plants that export their products to Korea, to be registered with the Korean government at least seven working days prior to import declaration. The Act provides a six-month grace period during which foreign facilities that are not registered with the MFDS may continue to export products to Korea without registration.

The grace period expires on August 3, 2016.

How To Register with Ministry of Food & Drug Safety

Industry members can register online or by mail, and such registrations remain valid for two years. Registration renewals must be completed at least seven days before the registration expires.

- To register online, go to <https://impfood.mfds.go.kr/>.
- To register by mail, send the registration application to the following office:

Food Import Policy Division
Ministry of Food & Drug Safety
187 Osong Saengmyung 2-ro, Osongeup, Cheongwon-gun, Chungcheongbuk-do
South Korea 363-700

The Act allows Korean officials to conduct food health/safety inspections in foreign facilities. Per the terms of the Act, Korean officials will hold consultations with foreign government agencies and foreign facilities prior to conducting these facility inspections. U.S. government staff are currently translating Korea's guidance on inspection criteria, and we will provide this guidance to industry when it becomes available.

More detailed information can also be found in a [GAIN report](#) published by the Foreign Agricultural Service.