



INDUSTRY NOTICE

DATE January 8, 2009

To: ALL IMPORTERS OF FISH AND SEAFOOD PRODUCTS AND THEIR BROKERS

Subject : THE VALIDATION OF FISH IMPORT LICENCES PRIOR TO THE IMPORT OF A FISH PRODUCT

As per the *Fish Inspection Regulations*, importers of fish and seafood products are required to have a valid fish import licence, issued by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) on an yearly basis. The importer of the shipment as declared to the CBSA must be the one holding a valid fish import licence at the time of importation into Canada.

It is anticipated that as of February 1, 2010, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) / CFIA Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) will only accept valid fish import licence numbers, that is, which matches the fish import licence number issued to the importer by CFIA and is not expired. If the number entered for a fish import licence is not valid, the EDI transaction will be rejected and the fish product will not be allowed entry into Canada.

The following is intended to provide assistance to importers and their brokers in the submission of the valid fish import licence through EDI:

The fish import licence number is referred to in EDI as a “Registration Type”. The fish import licence “Registration Number” must be entered under the “Registration Type” code 76 for Basic Fish Import licence numbers or the “Registration Type” code 131 for Quality Management Program (QMPI) Fish import licence numbers. The following illustrates this:

Registration Type	Registration Number
76 = Basic Fish Import Licence	Enter the licence number issued by the CFIA
131 = QMPI Fish Import Licence	Enter the licence number issued by the CFIA

If you require further information, please contact your local [CFIA Fish Inspection office](#) using CFIA's website link at: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/fispoi/import/pol/offbure.shtml>

Sincerely,

original signed by

Mary Ann Green
Director
Fish, Seafood and Production Division
Animal Products Directorate
Canadian Food Inspection Agency