

FAQS ABOUT THE SFDA FOOD CONSIGNMENT CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME

1. What does SFDA stand for?

SFDA is an acronym for Saudi Food & Drug Authority the government authority responsible for enacting and achieving the policies and procedures for the regulation of Food, Drug, Medical Devices, Cosmetics, Tobacco and Pesticides in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA).

SFDA is responsible for authorising the release of the imported Food products at the KSA Ports/Borders and for the implementation of food control measures in liaison with other authorities.

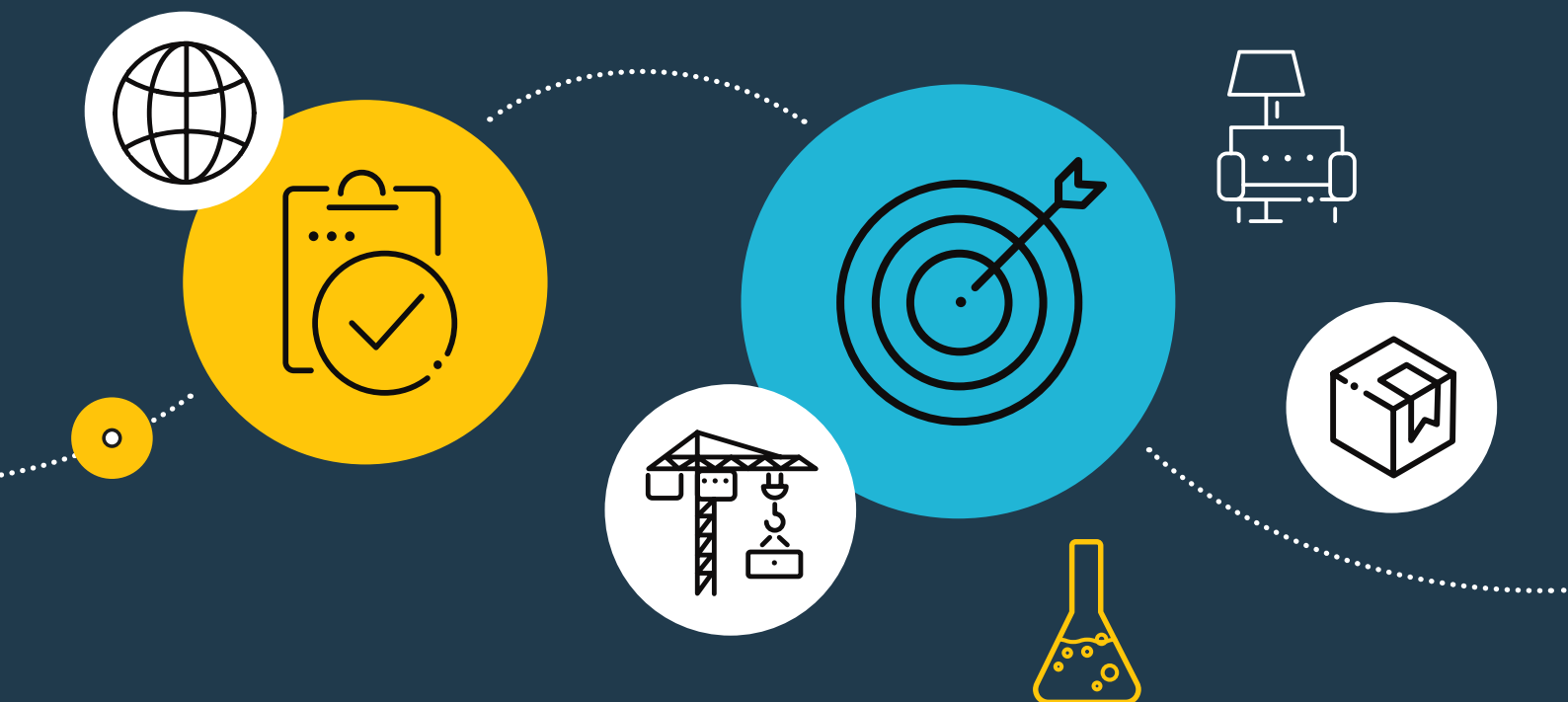
2. What is the main objective of the SFDA FCCP Programme?

The SFDA Food Consignment Certification Programme (FCCP) is a product conformity assessment scheme with the main objective of ensuring that Food products imported to Saudi Arabia comply with the requirements mandated by SFDA.

3. What products are regulated under SFDA FCCP?

All Food products exported from select countries are covered by the Programme. You may refer to <http://food.export2saudi.com/> for the list of Countries under the scope of the Programme.

Furthermore, the Programme is mandatory for Food products exported from mandated Countries of Supply to the KSA.



4. How does the SFDA FCCP work?

Exporters applying for a Certificate of Conformity (CoC) shall demonstrate compliance by providing substantiating evidence of the following mandatory SFDA FCCP requirements during Shipment Certification.

1. Registration of the Product, Importer and Exporter with SFDA
2. Importer's Commercial Registration Certificate issued by the Ministry of Commerce that includes "Food Trade" under its activity
3. Product Registration Number (PRN) issued by SFDA
4. Compliance of the product to the SFDA Essential Requirements, Technical Regulations and Approved Standards (through submission of qualifying documents, valid Test Report and/or Product Sampling and Testing, as well as Pre-Shipment Inspection).

An assessment shall be made to ensure that the requirements stipulated above have been complied with before a CoC is issued. Essential Requirements, Technical Regulations and approved Standards.

5. What is a Product Registration number?

A Product Registration Number is a unique identification number issued by SFDA in the format "X-X-X-DDMMYY-XXXXX". Food products should be registered with SFDA prior to exporting the products to KSA.

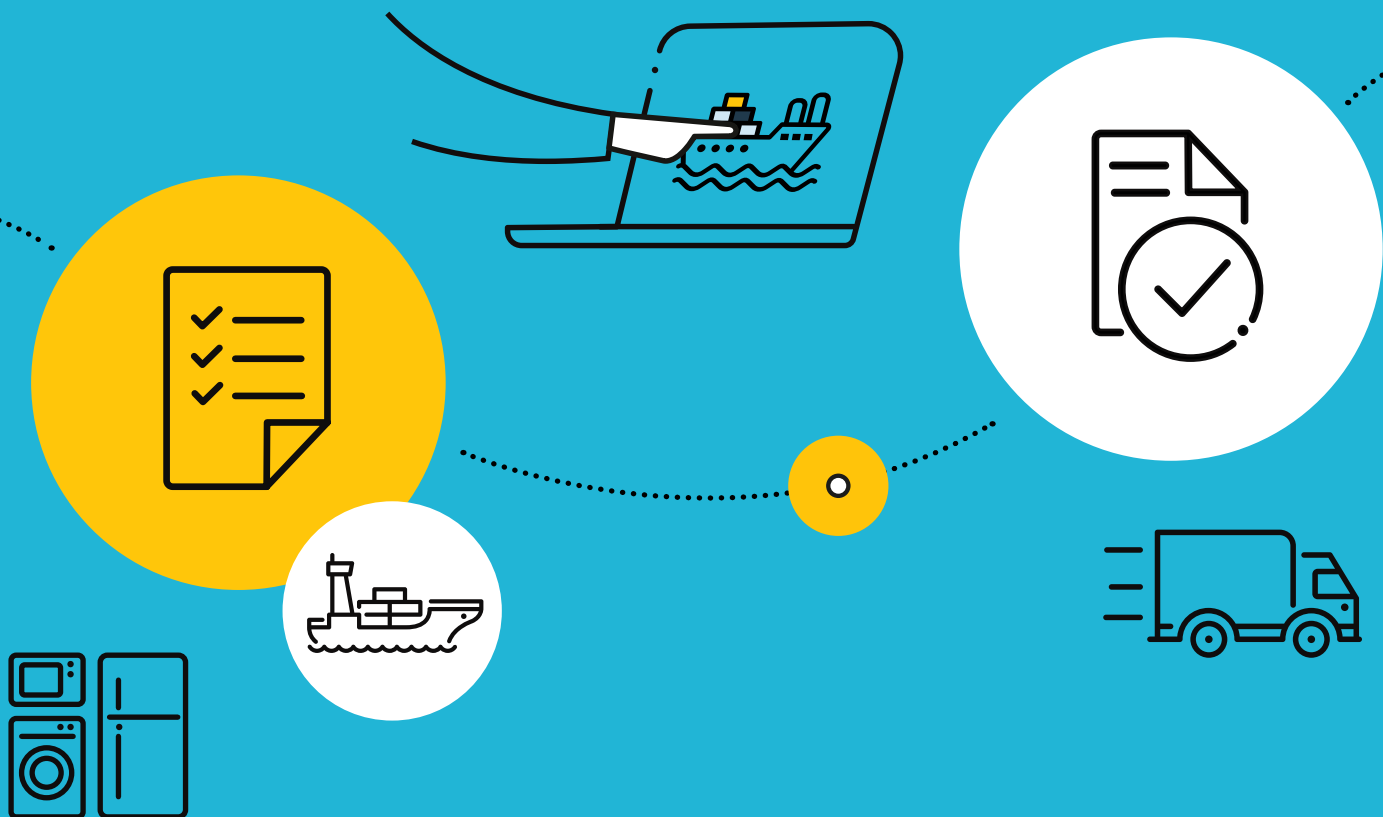
The Registration of Food products is usually done by the importer in KSA.

6. What are the benefits of obtaining a Certificate of Conformity?

The Certificate of Conformity is an obligatory clearance document for Food Products imported into KSA from Countries of Supply where the Programme is mandatory. For other countries, where the status of implementation is voluntary, the Food Consignments certified under the SFDA Food Consignment Certification Programme will be eligible for a quicker Custom Clearance at KSA Ports and Borders.

7. What would happen if the Products arrived at the KSA Ports/ Borders without a CoC??

Regulated Products from mandatory Countries of Supply arriving at the KSA Ports and Borders without the necessary Certificate may be rejected at KSA Ports and Borders and refused release. Whereas Food Consignments under the Voluntary Status may be invariably subject to Inspection and Testing leading to possible rejection of goods if found to be non-compliant



8. Is there a mandatory shelf-life for Food products exported to KSA??

Yes, the shelf-life of certain Food product shall comply with the standard SFDA.FD 150-1: 2021 Expiration Dates for Food Products- Part 1: Mandatory Expiration Dates.

Other products may follow the shelf-life recommendation based on the standard SFDA.FD/GSO 150-2: 2013 Expiration Dates for Food Products- Part 2: Voluntary Expiration Dates.

9. Who has to demonstrate compliance with the SFDA FCCP?

The Exporter shall bear the responsibility for demonstrating compliance to the requirements of the Programme. Accordingly, the Conformity Assessment Procedures shall be undertaken at the Country of Supply.

10. What will it cost to comply with the requirements of the SFDA FCCP?

The fees for demonstrating compliance with the Programme are available in the [Exporter and Importer Guidelines](#) ¹document which can be obtained from your local Intertek Office, or it can be downloaded from the <https://www.intertek.com/government/ website>.




11. How can I obtain further information about the SFDA Food Consignment Certification Programme?

You can contact your nearest [Intertek Office](#) for detailed information on the SFDA FCCP or you may visit <http://food.export2saudi.com/>

12. Where is Intertek's office in Saudi Arabia?

Intertek's Office in Saudi Arabia is located in the city of Riyadh. Below are the contact details and their address.

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