

United States Department of Agriculture

January 19, 2005 EOD-157

Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services

NOTICE TO THE TRADE

Farm Service Agency Alternative Closures for 4-Liter Vegetable Oil Tins For Use in Export Food Assistance Programs

Kansas City Commodity Office P.O. Box 419205 Kansas City, Missouri 64141-6205

To: All Suppliers of Vegetable Oil for Use in Export Food Assistance Programs

Subject: Use of Performance-Based Closures for 4-Liter Tins

Effective on all contracts awarded on or after the date of this notice, the closures (after filling) of cylindrical-style cans of vegetable oil packaged in 4-liter tins for P.L. 480, Title II Export Food Aid Programs, may be accomplished by any commercially acceptable manner that assures a sound, leak-proof, tamper-resistant seal capable of withstanding temperature extremes in excess of 150° F.

Full compliance with these performance requirements include but is not limited to: documentation of closure procedures, consistent performance of documented procedures, completion and retention of all applicable records (purchasing, testing, processing, etc.), and adherence to all contractual requirements.

The supporting evidence, at a minimum, must show that the closure will perform at least as well as the container(s) or packaging material(s) currently specified and authorized for use.

TQSA does not excuse failure to comply with USDA/CCC contract requirements; Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (21 CFR); Federal Acquisition Regulation; or other Federal, State, or local laws or regulations.

/s/ George W. Aldaya Director