

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

FSIS NOTICE	20-12	3/8/12
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**REMOVAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR A STATEMENT OF VERIFICATION FOR
SEVERAL COUNTRIES**

I. PURPOSE

This notice advises inspection program personnel that a Statement of Verification (SOV) for the export of beef and beef products is no longer needed for most countries. Consequently, FSIS has removed the SOV requirement from the list of export requirements for these countries in the Export Library.

II. DISCUSSION

A. In the past, the Export Verification (EV) program for many countries that import beef and beef products included a requirement for the U.S. exporter to obtain an SOV from the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) as part of the FSIS export certification process for beef and beef products. AMS' role has been to confirm, through the SOV, that the establishment and product listed on the export certificate application align with the establishment and product eligibility lists for the relevant country. Over time, industry has become more vigilant in accurately completing this documentation, which has diminished the need for a SOV for most countries.

B. Therefore, beginning on March 19, 2012, FSIS will no longer require an SOV as part of the export certification process for beef and beef products intended for export to Colombia, El Salvador, Hong Kong, Lebanon, Malaysia, Panama, Peru, Singapore, St. Lucia, Thailand, Ukraine, and Vietnam. IPP are to continue to verify the eligibility of the establishment and product, as outlined in the country's requirements in the FSIS Export Library.

DISTRIBUTION: Electronic

NOTICE EXPIRES: 4/1/13

OPI: OPPD

Questions regarding this notice should be directed to the Export Programs Staff, Office of International Affairs at ImportExport@fsis.usda.gov or at (855) 444-9904. Questions can also be submitted through AskFSIS at <http://askfsis.custhelp.com>.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end.

Assistant Administrator
Office of Policy and Program Development