

**ECUADOR DATASHEET**

**1. PRESHIPMENT INSPECTION (PSI) MANDATE :**

PSI MANDATED BY	Corporación Aduanera Ecuatoriana (CAE)  <b>All goods shipped until and including February 29, 2008 shall be subject to PSI. NNRFs (Avisos de No Conformidad) shall be issued in case final documents are not received within 15 working days from the date of physical inspection.</b>
APPLICABLE REGULATION(S)	- Resolución N° 07-2004-R2 - Registro Oficial No. 134 dated October 27, 2005 - Bulletins Nos. 128 and 131 dated October 23 and 25, 2007, respectively.
APPOINTED PSI COMPANY	COTECNA INSPECTION SA, and four other PSI companies
SELECTION OF PSI COMPANY	Importer's choice
SCOPE OF PSI	- quality and quantity - export market price (for Government information purpose ) - value for customs purpose (based on Cartagena Agreement) - Customs Classification - import eligibility (labeling, expiry date, prohibited goods) - origin of goods
MINIMUM ORDER VALUE SUBJECT TO PSI	USD 4'000 FOB (including donations imported into Ecuador by public or private companies and exceeding USD 4000 FOB)
PART SHIPMENTS	Subject to PSI if total order value exceeds USD 4,000.
EXEMPTIONS FROM PSI	See <a href="#">Section 7</a> .

**2. INSPECTION ORDER "I.O." (the instruction for Cotecna to inspect)**

I.O. NAME	SDI (Solicitud de Inspeccion)
ISSUED BY	COTECNA Liaison Office in Ecuador upon importer's application
VALIDITY	No time limit
AMOUNT BY WHICH I.O. VALUE MAY BE EXCEEDED	No limit
AMENDMENT TO THE I.O.	Quito / Guayaquil Cotecna Office should be advised
DESTINATION INSPECTION  *****WARNING*****  This part is under review and is going to be updated by the government	<b>NOT AUTHORIZED</b> except for: a) goods imported into Ecuador under the following special customs regimes: Commercial and Industrial deposit, Transit, Temporary Importation. b) Situations of <b>force majeure</b> , at the warranted request of the Importer to the Director of Customs. c) Air shipments for emergency use. d) Upon punctual request from the Customs Authorities within the scope of Aforo fisico activities.

**3. INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS / RESTRICTIONS :**

SEALING OF FCL CONTAINERS	IS MANDATORY
SECOND-HAND GOODS	See sections <a href="#">8</a> and <a href="#">9</a>
PROHIBITED IMPORTS	See <a href="#">section 8</a>
RESTRICTED IMPORTS	See <a href="#">section 9</a>
<p>LABELLING REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>This part is under review and is going to be updated by the government</p>	<p>As per Ministry of Finance Decree N° 1.803: Trade mark, name, origin and expiry date must be shown on limited shelf life retail packages and products in bulk for repackaging into retail sizes (foods items, perishables, pharmaceuticals, other products commonly traded with expiry date)</p> <p>As per Resolution No. 0165 dated 31.03.2004, the importation of alcoholic products, including beer for consumption in Ecuador is authorized, provided these products are shipped from the country of origin or country where bottling, canning, etc. took place and that sanitary registration, pre-shipment inspection and a certificate of origin issued by the Chambers of Commerce of the respective country have been obtained.</p> <p>Such importations must bear the following labels on their packaging (bottles, cans, etc.):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Main (front) label in Spanish stating: "Importado por... (imported by... name of agent or representative in capital letters), the word "Ecuador", the sanitary registration number, the percentage of alcohol and the capacity of the bottle, can, etc. in cubic centimeters;</li> <li>b) Secondary (rear) label in Spanish stating: "Advertencia: El consume excesivo de alcohol limita su capacidad de conducir y operar máquinas. Puede causar daños en su salud y perjudica a su familia. Ministerio de Salud Pública del Ecuador. Venta prohibida a menores de 18 años".</li> </ul> <p>In case the main label is unavailable, an additional label must be stuck on the back side of the bottle, can, etc. with labeling as per paragraph a) above. In all cases, these labels must be stuck on the goods in the country of origin or country where bottling, canning, etc. took place.</p> <p>As per Resolution No. 497 dated 06.09.2004, samples of alcoholic products, including beer provided Free of Charge for importation into Ecuador for analysis in view of obtaining sanitary registration shall not require such registration, pre-shipment inspection or a certificate of origin issued by the Chambers of Commerce of the respective country, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Importers obtain authorization from the Ministry of Public Health;</li> <li>- It is specified that such samples are "Samples for obtaining sanitary registration";</li> </ul>

	<p>- Their value does not exceed USD 250.00 FOB per shipment.</p> <p>As per R.O 963 (10.06.96): Chicken, meat and derived products from third countries must be packed in polyethylene wrapper suitable for human consumption with the following information: Name of the manufacturer and Sanitary inspection record. Boxes must be adequately sealed and labeled, indicating the date of packaging.</p> <p>All samples with no commercial value must be clearly labeled as "Muestra sin valor comercial".</p>
OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS	<p>As per Ministry of Finance Decree N° 033 (22.11.95) and R.O 839 (11.12.95): All samples above USD 500 with no commercial value must be valued.</p> <p>As per Ministry of Finance's Circular N° 059 (14.11.96): Final invoice's vehicles must show type of model, year of manufacture and chassis number.</p> <p>If the Inspection Order (IO) indicates that a Duty Exemption applies, the certificate of origin details should be forwarded to Cotecna.</p> <p><b>TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR WOOD PACKAGING MATERIAL</b></p> <p>As per R.O.132 dated 25.10.2005, wood packaging material (please refer to the Regulatory Requirements in the link hereunder) imported into Ecuador or in international transit must imperatively be submitted either to heat treatment (HT) or methyl bromide (MB) fumigation for wood packaging material.</p> <p>As a means of certifying that the wood packaging material has been subjected to one of the above measures, it must imperatively be marked as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Symbol of the International Plant Protection Convention IPPC.</li> <li>- ISO two letter country code followed by a unique number assigned by the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) to the producer of the wood packaging material, who is responsible for ensuring appropriate wood is used and properly marked.</li> <li>- IPPC abbreviation of the approved measure used (e.g. HT, MB)</li> </ul> <p>Markings should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- According to the model shown on page 27 of the subject R.O. or pages 15/16 of the link hereunder.</li> <li>- Legible.</li> <li>- Permanent and not transferable.</li> <li>- Placed in a visible location, preferably on at least two opposite sides of the article being certified.</li> </ul> <p>The use of red or orange should be avoided since these colors are used in the labeling of dangerous goods.</p>

Recycled, remanufactured or repaired wood packaging material should be re-certified and re-marked. All components of such material should have been treated.

Shippers should be encouraged to use appropriately marked wood for dunnage.

All wood packaging material must bear the aforementioned mark and be free from live pests. The Animal and Plant Sanitary Service of the Ministry of Agriculture (SESA) reserves the right to request a phytosanitary certificate as an additional requisite when justified by technical conditions.

As per R.O. 297 dated June 22, 2006, SESA has decided to implement the aforementioned requirements in two stages:

#### **Stage 1**

As from July 1, 2006, all wood packaging material imported into Ecuador must be treated and marked in conformity with the International ISPM No. 15 Norm. Cases of non-conformity will be notified to the NPPPO in the exporting country, to which Ecuadorian customs will provide all information relating to the importation in question.

All untreated wood packaging material will be separated from the rest of the goods and immediately re-shipped. Where evidence of live pests is found, the packaging material will be treated in conformity with technical recommendations, prior to re-shipment.

Companies registered with SESA will fumigate the goods separated from their packaging material with methyl bromide in accordance with technical recommendations established between SESA and the fumigator.

Following notification from SESA to Customs, customs clearance will be suspended until the importer pays for fumigation and storage costs, and other technical and administrative costs borne by SESA are deposited in the latter's account. Costs involved in separating the product, re-shipping the packaging material and other administrative costs involved in the operation will be paid by the importer to the respective institutions and copies of payment receipts presented to SESA and Customs.

To enable customs clearance, SESA will issue a clearance certificate relating to the product. Stage 1 will be valid until August 1, 2006.

#### **Stage 2**

Thereafter, all wood packaging material imported into Ecuador in breach of international and national norms on wood packaging material will be placed in official custody of Customs and SESA for re-shipment. This will affect both packaging and product.

	<p>In case of non-payment of storage, re-shipment and technical and administrative costs by the importer, SESA will notify Customs and Central Bank accordingly and request that they ban the importer from importing and exporting</p> <p>Link to ISPM No. 15 in English/French/Spanish – Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade.</p> <p><a href="http://www.fao.org/documents/show_cdr.asp?url_file=/DOCREP/006/Y4838E/Y4838E00.HTM">http://www.fao.org/documents/show_cdr.asp?url_file=/DOCREP/006/Y4838E/Y4838E00.HTM</a></p>
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For the following goods, it is mandatory that at time of inspection, certificates of analysis are furnished by exporters:

HS CODE	DESCRIPTION
0403.90.00	Buttermilk, curdled milk and cream, kephir and other fermented or acidified milk and cream, whether or not concentrated or containing added sugar or other sweetening matter or flavored or containing added fruit, nuts or cocoa.
0403.10.00	Yoghurt

**4. PRICE VERIFICATION / SELLER'S INVOICE REQUIREMENTS**

BUYING / CONFIRMING COMMISSION	No restriction
INSURANCE	No restriction
FINANCIAL INTEREST	No restriction
FINAL INVOICE TO SHOW	FOB, freight, insurance and total value (where applicable)

**5. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

FINAL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY COTECNA TO ISSUE REPORT	Final invoice showing FOB value.
TYPE OF REPORT ISSUED	(1) To seller: Constancia de Inspeccion (for L/C transaction only) (2) To importer: Certificado de Inspeccion
REPORT PURPOSE	(1) Constancia de Inspeccion: for presentation (by seller) to Negotiating Bank. (2) Certificado de inspección: to assist the Ecuadorian Authorities in collecting the correct amount of duties and taxes. Goods clearance

**6. INSPECTION FEES**

Paid by the Importer. Nevertheless, COTECNA may invoice the seller in the event of supplementary inspection visits (in vain or unsatisfactory results). The costs incurred by the seller for presenting the goods for inspection, such as unpacking, handling, testing, sampling, repackaging are for the account of the seller.

**7. LISTING OF GOODS EXEMPTED FROM PSI :**

- Goods with a FOB value below USD 4,000.-
- Imports destined for diplomatic and consular sectors.
- Goods declared in customs transit destined for re-exportation.
- International travelers' personal luggage.
- International postal traffic and courier.
- Border traffic.
- Goods fished in international waters.
- Goods imported into Free Zones.
- Vaccines, medicaments and their biological and chemical ingredients (biológicos and insumos) imported by the Ministry of Public Health (MSP).

**8. LISTING OF PROHIBITED IMPORTS**

HS CODE	DESCRIPTION	OBSERVATION
2524.00.90	Other asbestos	Only for crocidolite
2903.51.10	Lindane (ISO) gamma isomer	
2903.59.10	Chlordane (ISO)	
2903.59.20	Aldrin (ISO)	
2903.62.10	Hexachlorobenzene	
2903.69.00	Other halogenated derivatives of aromatic hydrocarbons	Only for polychloride biphenyles, polybromidebiphenyles, terphenyles poychloride
2908.90.00	Other derivatives of phenols or phenol-alcohols	Only for pentachlorophenol
2910.90.10	Dieldrin (ISO) (DCI)	
2910.90.20	Endrin (ISO)	
2918.90.30	2,4,5-T (ISO) Trichlorophenoxy acetic acid	
2919.00.90	Other	Tris phosphate (dibromopropyl)
2920.10.10	Parathion-methyl (ISO)	
2920.10.20	Parathion-ethylic (ISO)	
4012.11.00	Retreaded tyres of a kind used on motor cars (including station wagons and racing cars)	
4012.12.00	Retreaded tyres of a kind used on buses or lorries	
4012.19.00	Other retreaded tyres	
4012.20.00	Used pneumatic tyres	
4103.20.00	Other raw hides and skins of reptiles	
4106.40.00	Tanned or crust hide or skins of reptiles	
4113.30.00	Leather of reptiles further prepared after tanning or crusting	
6309.00.00	Worn clothing and other worn articles	Only for used clothing and shoes sold as commercial goods
8415.10.10	Window or wall types, self-contained or "split-system"with chilling capacity not exceeding 30000 BTU/hour	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8415.10.90	Other	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8415.20.00	Air conditioning machines of a kind used for persons, in motor vehicles	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8415.81.10	Air conditioning machines Incorporating a refrigerating unit and a valve for reversal of the cooling/heat cycle (reversible heat pumps)with chilling capacity not exceeding 30000 BTU/hour	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8415.81.90	Other	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502

8415.82.20	Other, incorporating a refrigerating unit that not exceeding 30000 BTU/hour	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8415.82.30	Other, incorporating a refrigerating superior to 30000 BTU/h but not exceeding 240000 BTU/hour	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8415.82.40	Other, incorporating a refrigerating superior to 240000 BTU/h	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8415.83.00	Not incorporating a refrigerating unit	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.10.00	Combined refrigerator-freezers, fitted with separate external doors	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.21.00	Refrigerators, household type, compression type	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.22.00	Refrigerators, household type, absorption type electrical	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.29.00	Other refrigerators, household type	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.30.00	Freezers of the chest type, not exceeding 800l capacity	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.40.00	Freezers of the upright type, not exceeding 900l capacity	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.50.00	Other refrigerating or freezing chests, cabinets, display counters, show-cases and similar refrigerating or freezing furniture	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.61.00	Compression type units whose condensers are heat exchangers	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.69.11	Other compression type units	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.69.12	Other absorption type units	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.69.91	Other units for manufacturing ice	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.69.92	Water fountains	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.69.99	Other refrigerating units	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.91.00	Furniture designed to receive refrigerating or freezing equipment	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.99.10	Plate evaporators	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
8418.99.90	Other parts	Only for equipment containing CFCs that use refrigerants R-12 or R-502
9502.10.00.10	Doll called "Marv corridor de la muerte"	
9601.10.00	Worked ivory and articles of ivory	
9601.90.00	Worked bone, tortoise-shell, horn, antlers, coral, mother-of-pearl and other animal carving material, and articles of these materials (including articles obtained by moulding).	

Importation of all shrimp species in any stage of their biological cycle (nauplius; mysis, zoeas, postlarvae and reproductive), fresh or frozen is prohibited. Only reproductive SPF for genetic improvement can be imported.

Importation of the following bio-aquatic organisms used in pisciculture and aquatic activity is also prohibited:

- Artemia in all its forms, except artemia cysts and eggs.
- Frozen plankton, e.g. krill, mysidaceae, coelomates and cephalopods.
- Fresh and frozen shellfish of all types and sizes.
- Larvae of peneids or of any shellfish.
- Nauplius of peneids or of any other shellfish.
- Shrimp flour.

Importation of reproduction birds, fertile eggs, products, sub-products and by-products of the gallus domesticus, meleagris gallopavo and phasianidae species from Canada, Italy, UK, Spain, Egypt, Belgium, Brunei, Iraq, Nigeria, Croatia, Russia, Ukraine, Turkey, Romania, Greece, Virginia and West Virginia (USA) has been suspended in order to avoid dissemination of the bird flu.

Importation of all birds and products, sub-products and by-products of bird origin from the Dominican Republic has been suspended until July 6, 2008.

Importation of live bovines, sheep, goats, felines, exotic ungulate animals and wild animals and their products, sub-products and by-products from Germany, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, USA, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, UK, Czech Republic and Switzerland has been suspended to prevent the mad cow disease from spreading.

Products for veterinary use containing Chloramfenicol and Nitrofurantoin as active ingredients have been banned from importation due to their negative effect on health.

For health reasons, importation of the following products has been suspended until December 29, 2008:

Subheading 2501.00.11 – Table salt

Subheading 2501.00.19 – Salt, other

Subheading 2501.00.90 - Other

## 9. LISTING OF RESTRICTED IMPORTS

- Import of motor vehicles, tractors, cycles and other road vehicles, their parts and accessories thereof, falling under Tariff Chapter 87 (with the exception of subheadings 8712.00.00, 87.13 and 87.16) is allowed provided they are new and the model year corresponds to the import year or the year after importation (i.e. year of shipment), and they do not show traces of wear, accident or damage. The model year should be verified against the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN).
- Import of parts, spare parts and accessories of vehicles, tractors, cycles and other road vehicles of Chapter 87 is permitted provided these articles are new.
- Import of motors classified in headings 84.07 and 84.08 is permitted provided they are new, with the following exceptions: tariff codes 8407.10.00, 8407.29.00, 8408.10.00 and 8408.90.10. Import of motors classified in tariff code 8408.90.20 is permitted provided they are new or refurbished.
- Chicken meat and its derivatives coming from third countries will require an import license (Permiso de Importación) from the Ministry of Agriculture (Ecuadorian Agricultural Sanitary Services) provided they are imported completely eviscerated, packed, labeled, frozen at below minus 18°C (not more than 60 days) and transported at below minus 18°C.
- Alcoholic products, including beer must be shipped from the country of origin or country where bottling, canning, etc. took place and sanitary registration, pre-shipment inspection and a certificate of origin issued by the Chambers of Commerce of the respective country must be obtained.
- Only assembling companies should import CKD vehicles.
- Belmont cigarettes should be imported by Itabsa (Philip Morris) only.
- Products containing the raw material or active component for the preparation of SILDENAFIL should be imported only by PFIZER RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT COMPANY.
- Chloride, mercury insecticides, all of them lead-based.
- Importation of articles of apparel, clothing and footwear is permitted provided they are new.

- Importation of spare parts, parts and pieces covered by subheading 9808.00.00.94 is permitted provided they are new.
- A fish (ictosanitario) certificate from the country of origin is a pre-requisite for the importation of trout eggs, alevin, reproducers and genetically manipulated alevin semen.
- Chinese soybean cake must be packaged in new bags and an export phytosanitary certificate issued by the National Organization for Phytosanitary Protection (NOPP) of China, stating that the goods have undergone heat treatment at 115 to 120°C for 15 to 20 minutes must accompany the usual shipping documents. Failure to comply with these requirements will hinder the goods from being imported into Ecuador.
- Fresh Lebanese grapes must be shipped without leaves and stems and packaged in new cartons or any artificial material. An export phytosanitary certificate issued by the Department of Imports and Exports and Agricultural Quarantine of the Ministry of Agriculture of Lebanon, certifying that the goods are free from *Brevipalpus lewisi*, *Lobesia botrana*, *Ceroplastes rusci*, *Pseudococcus vitis*, *Monilinia fructigena*, *Nattractia mangiferae*, *Phoma reniformis*, *Phaeomoniella chlamydospora*, must accompany the usual shipping documents.

At the place of shipment in Lebanon, the fresh grapes must be submitted to a methyl bromide treatment at the normal atmospheric pressure under the prevailing means of transportation and in the following doses:

Doses (gr/m3)	Exposure time (hours)	Room temperature (°C)
24	2	26.5 – 31.5
32	2	21.0 – 26.4
40	2	15.5 – 20.9
48	2	10.0 – 15.4
64	2	4.5 – 9.9

Alternatively, the following cold treatment can be applied during or prior to shipment:

Temperature (°C)	Time (days)
0.00	10
0.55	11
1.11	12
1.66	14
2.22	16

The type of treatment applied must be mentioned in the export phytosanitary certificate. Failure to comply with all the above requirements will hinder the goods from being imported into Ecuador.

Import licenses are mandatory for the following products:

HS CODE	DESCRIPTION
All products of heading 04.02.	Milk and cream, concentrated or containing added sugar or other sweetening matter
0403.90.00	Buttermilk powder only
0404.10.00	Whey
2008.30.00	Citrus Fruit
2914.11.00	Acetone
8906.00.10	Warships
9301.00.00	War weapons

For all other products requiring an import license, please consult the following Ecuadorian websites:

Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería: <http://www.mag.gov.ec/>

Ministerio de Comercio Exterior, Industrialización y Pesca: <http://www.micip.gov.ec>

Ministerio de Salud Pública: <http://www.msp.gov.ec>

Consejo de Comercio Exterior e Inversiones: <http://www.comexi.gov.ec>

Consejo Nacional de Control de Sustancias Estupefacientes y Psicotrópicas: <http://www.consep.gov.ec>

Ministerio de Obras Públicas: <http://www.mop.gov.ec>

Comando Conjunto de la Fuerzas Armadas: <http://www.ffaa.mil.ec/comaco/index.htm>

Comisión Ecuatoriana de Energía Atómica: <http://www.ecunuclear.gov.ec/ecu/laceea.htm>

Instituto Ecuatoriano de Normalización: <http://www.inen.gov.ec>

## 10. OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

- Destination inspections (**Aforo físico** System) are carried out by one of the PSI companies, which is appointed randomly by Customs and mainly concerns goods whose FOB value is below USD 4'000.-

## 11. DISCLAIMER

The information contained herein is for the purpose of facilitating preshipment inspection, does not relieve exporters or importers from their obligation in respect of compliance with the import regulations of the country of importation and is not intended to affect the contractual obligations of the parties to a transaction and consequently does not affect the rights of the buyer, for whom COTECNA is not acting, and does not relieve the seller of his contractual obligations. Although every effort has been made to ensure the correctness of the information, as at the date the issuance of this data sheet, COTECNA does not accept any responsibility for errors and omissions and, furthermore, the information may subsequently be subject to change as may be announced by the Authorities in the country of importation. Consequently, exporters are advised to check with COTECNA, prior to shipment of goods, if there is any doubt concerning the issuance of a Clean Report of Findings. For further information, or clarification, please contact the COTECNA Affiliate in the country of inspection of the goods.