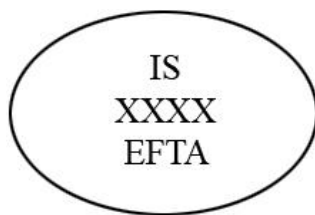


To whom it may concern

New approval numbers/identification marks replace the old IS-numbers

The Icelandic parliament Althingi has recently passed a bill on the implementation of the European law for food and feed, the so-called hygiene package.

The different parts of the European food and feed law package will be incorporated into Icelandic law over the next 20 months. This will start with fishery products, live bivalve molluscs and animal feed products from 1st of March 2010.



In connection with the implementation it was necessary to re-construct the Icelandic EU approval numbering system. The new approval numbers will replace the old approval numbers (IS-numbers) that have been in use in all fish processing plants, fishmeal processing plants and fishing vessels since 1993.

The main changes are the following:

- The new approval numbers will start with a letter followed by a 2 – 4 digit numbers (eg. A999)
- Each establishment will only have one approval number.
- The new approval number will cover all the activities within the same establishment, whereas previously each activity had its separate approval number (IS-number).
- In case the food business operator applies for and is approved for a new activity within the same establishment, it will be covered by extending the same approval number to cover the new activity as well.
- All packed fishery product and products of animal origin shall be marked with an oval identification mark as shown in the picture above (XXXX replaced by the new approval number).

New approval numbers have also been issued for factory vessels and freezer vessels, one number for each vessel. Other fishing vessels will not have approval numbers but their fixed 4 digits' registration number issued by The Icelandic Maritime Administration (Siglingastofnun) will serve as their registration number.

Companies having remaining stocks of preprinted packaging materials will be permitted to use these for at least 12 months as from 1st of March 2010.

For a certain period of time all issued health certificates and tables on MAST's web-site will show both the old and the corresponding new approval numbers.

The approval number will appear on the health certificates in front of the producer's name and address:

“AXXX (IS-YYYYY) Producer's name and address“.

Full traceability from the old IS-numbers to the new approval numbers has been ensured.

Sigurður Örn Hansson, Manager
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Selfoss, February 24, 2010