India

Post: New Delhi

Compliance Timeline Extended for Modified Labeling Requirements

Report Categories:
Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety
Exporter Guide
Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative
Tree Nuts
Grain and Feed
Fresh Fruit

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Report Highlights:
On December 13, 2017, the Government of India’s (GOI) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued guidelines to extend the compliance date for modified labeling requirements mentioned in its earlier guidelines dated August 9, 2016.
General Information:

On December 13, 2017, FSSAI has extended the timeline to comply with modified labeling requirements published in their August 9, 2016 guidelines for all primary food such as food grains, pulses, fresh fruits, dry fruits, whole spices, etc. The August 2016 notification provided a transition period of six months to the food business operators to comply with the labeling amendments. However, the current notification extends the compliance date until the time the revised Food Safety and Standards (Labeling) Regulation is published.

The full text of the notifications dated December 13, 2017 and August 9, 2016 is pasted below and can also be accessed on FSSAI’s website www.fssai.gov.in/
Subject: Guidelines related to Food Import Clearance Process by FSSAI's Authorized Officers - reg.

In partial modification to the guidelines issued by FSSAI vide F.No.1-17/FSSAI/T/2010 (Part I) dated 23.03.2012 regarding labelling requirement of primary food like food grains, pulses, fruits, dry fruits, whole spices etc. imported in package, it is clarified that name and address of the importer can be verified from accompanying documents of the consignment.

In addition to earlier mandatory requirements for primary food imported in package i.e. name of food, name and complete address of the manufacturer/ packer and date of Packing/Manufacture, following may also be mentioned on the package:

1. Net weight
2. Lot no. / Code No. / Batch No.
3. Best before or use by date or date of expiry

A period of six months is given for compliance. This issues with the approval of competent Authority.

(Bimal Kumar Dubey)
Director (Imports)