



FCD 019.36
14 August 2009

Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore

5 Maxwell Road #18-00 Tower Block MND Complex Singapore 069110
Tel: (65) 6325 0783 Fax: (65) 6221 5091

CIRCULAR

To All Prepacked Food Importers

All declaring agents are requested to inform your importers of the contents of this circular.

Dear Sirs/Madams

AVERAGE WEIGHT DECLARATION

We would like to inform you that the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority has, in consultation with the Weights and Measures Office of SPRING Singapore, completed a review on the current minimum weight declaration requirement for prepacked foods under the Food Regulations.

2 Sub-paragraph (4)(d) of Regulation 5 of the Food Regulations will be amended to require prepacked foods to be labelled with the average quantity of the food present in the package, expressed in terms of volumetric measure or net weight or any other measure. This new requirement is expected to be implemented within the next 12 months. The actual date of implementation will be announced once it is being confirmed.

3 The Average Quantity System (AQS) is internationally recognised for determining deficiencies in prepacked goods. It provides fairness to packers, manufacturers and consumers. Packers and manufacturers can ensure that the average content of their foods meets the net quantity declared in the labels by adjusting the fill levels so as to fill packages to an optimum level with tighter tolerance. Consumers can also be assured that they do not receive on average, short measure pre-packed goods. Detailed information on AQS can be downloaded from the following URL:

<http://www.ava.gov.sg/FoodSector/FoodLabelingAdvertisement/>
(under "General Labelling Requirements")

4 Please contact our officers Mr Cheng Chee Seng at tel: 6325 1227, email: cheng_chee_seng@ava.gov.sg, or Mr Chue Sung Chian at tel: 6325 3013, chue_sung_chian@ava.gov.sg, if you need further information concerning AQS implementation.

Yours faithfully

TAN TUANG HONG
FOOD CONTROL DIVISION
FOOD & VETERINARY ADMINISTRATION
for CEO
AGRI-FOOD & VETERINARY AUTHORITY

This is a computer-generated letter and no signature is required.