



FCD 019.13/2006

CIRCULAR

22 Aug 2006

All Liquor Importers / Declaring agents

Dear Sirs

**REMOVAL OF THE CERTIFICATE OF AGE (COA) REQUIREMENT
FOR THE IMPORT OF BRANDY AND WHISKY**

We wish to inform you that with effect from 1st Sep 2006, the submission of Certificate of Age (COA) is no longer required for importation of brandy or whisky.

2 This is the outcome of a comprehensive review by the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA) and other government agencies and the removal of the COA would promote a freer trading environment for importers for importation of brandy and whisky

3 Notwithstanding the removal of the COA requirement for imports of brandy and whisky, AVA will continue to check on the safety of all liquors like any other food products under the current comprehensive surveillance programmes. The relevant competent authorities will continue their concerted efforts and control mechanisms to prevent the import of counterfeit liquors.

4 We would like to remind importers that it is your responsibility to ensure the authenticity of the imported products as well as to comply fully with the provisions of the Sale of Food Act and its Regulations to ensure the safety and wholesomeness of the imported brandy and whisky. Importers who fail to comply with the said laws will be prosecuted. Any person who is guilty of an offence under the Sale of Food Act shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5000 and, in the case of a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both.

5 You may contact our TradeNet Duty Officers at Tel: 6325 0783 / 6221 5056, or Mr Ong Swee Seng, Head (Pre- Market Surveillance Section) Food Control Division, at Tel : 6325 0788 or Mr Koh Chee Meng, Sr Import Control Inspector at Tel : 6325 1210 if you need any clarification.

Yours faithfully

TAN HENG PIU DAVID
FOOD CONTROL DIVISION
FOOD & VETERINARY ADMINISTRATION
For DIRECTOR-GENERAL
AGRI-FOOD AND VETERINARY SERVICES

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