



Quality Assurance International

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Client Broadcast Email/Fax Attention Valued QAI Clients

Update on the EU Organic Regulations

An amendment to the current EU regulation, EEC 392/2004, will make it mandatory for any operator who “stores” or “markets” products to be certified to the EU organic standard, EEC 2092/91. This will be effective 1 July 2005. Operators who contract warehousing or storage services will need to obtain documentation verifying these facilities have been certified in compliance with the EU regulation. QAI will be updating our EU Organic Compliance Plans to come into compliance with this new requirement. DEFRA in the UK has issued a clarification for operators looking to sell organic products in the UK, please view this link for more information:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/farm/organic/legislation%2Dstandards/pdf/storagewarehousing-letter.pdf>

EEC 392/2004 will also require operators who “market” EU organic products to be certified to the EU organic standard. This means that all operators who fall under the QAI “trader” category will need to be EU certified if they take title to any products that are exported to the EU.

Additionally, QAI has received notification of EU proposed legislation, COM (2005) 194 final, that will amend the expiration date on the Article 11 (6) export procedures. QAI clients currently take advantage of the Article 11 (6) export procedure to export their products to the EU, this procedure was set to expire on 31 December 2005. The proposed legislation will change this to 31 December 2006. The EU intends to change their importation procedures for organic products entirely over the next year and will replace the Article 11 (6) procedures with a new permanent procedure. QAI will continue to stay up to date and will continue to keep our clients up to date on any changes to the EU organic regulations.

If you have any questions about how these changes will affect your operation, you may contact Tom Chapman, International Specialist via email at tom@qai-inc.com or 858 792 3531.