

Here are the steps to follow to get a product into Europe:

- Product is certified as compliant to the EU reg (formerly 2092/91, transitioning to EC 834/2007);
- The importer of country which is the first port of entry is required to be certified for importing EU product. That importer applies for an import authorization with his/her ministry (e.g. - Defra is ministry for UK, Laser is ministry for Netherlands, BLE is ministry for Germany). Each country has a slightly different form that is country specific. Although the importer is technically the applicant, oftentimes the exporter (the QAI client) is doing the majority of the work on the application, and may start the form. We do have most of the EU countries' forms on file, but if we do not, it's the client's responsibility to contact his/her importer to get the correct form.
- Once the application is complete and the supply chain information has been attached, as well as all supply chain certificates, the form can be approved by QAI and sent to either the importer, if there are no confidentiality issues, or directly to the ministry if there are confidentiality issues. If the form is sent to the ministry directly, then QAI needs to follow up and obtain the importer's signature page separately before forwarding the completed application on.
- Approximately ten business days after the ministry receives the application, they will contact the importer to acknowledge receipt. They may follow up with the importer or the exporter's certifying body for more information (e.g. - inspection reports of operators in the supply chain, etc) before granting the authorization. Notification is sent to the importer, although some ministries (France, as an example) will copy both the exporter and the exporter's certifier.
- Once the import authorization is granted, each shipment of product to Europe will need to be accompanied by a Certificate of Inspection (the European equivalent of a transaction certificate). On this document (attached), box 2 should be checked to show that compliance is per Article 19 of 1235/2008. Box 4 is where the import authorization reference number goes. This is verified at the port of entry in Europe. QAI's responsibility is to verify that the client is certified for EU, and that the products going to Europe are part of his/her EU profile.