



الله أكبر

## REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

Verification of Conformity (VOC) / Pre-inspection, testing & issuing certificates of conformity Program of goods imported into Iraq

# NOTICE to Exporters of Food Products, Cosmetics, Detergents and Cement

## OBJECTIVES

- Faster goods release on arrival in Iraq.
- Reducing the Non Conformities on arrival in Iraq

## REQUIREMENTS

### Declaring all the exported products

Prior inspection, **Exporters shall declare production dates and expiry dates** (when applicable) of the goods intended to be exported.

**Only goods identified in the VOC Iraq certificate of conformity (COC) shall be exported**

### Shelf life for Food products and Cement

➤ IQS 1847 is applicable to all **food products** and requires the following\*:

- ✓ The total shelf life shall be according to requirements in tables IQS 1847
- ✓ If **shelf life ≤ 6 months: date marking shall be: "day, month, year"**. The day of the Production date and Expiry date are both taken into account for the calculation (*example 2 months shelf life gives: prod date: 22 03 2021, exp date: 21 05 2021*)
- ✓ If **shelf life > 6 months: date marking could be only: "month, year"**. The first day of the month in the Production date and the last day of the month in the Expiry date are both taken into account for the calculation (*example 7 months shelf life gives: prod date: 03 2021, exp date: 09 2021 or prod date: 22 03 2021, exp date: 21 10 2021*)
- ✓ The **remaining shelf life** at date of entrance in Iraq shall be **at least 50 %**.

\*Refer to IQS 1847 for detailed requirements

- The validity of the certificates of conformity issued for all regulated products (except for cement) is maximum 6 months.
- The validity of the certificates of conformity issued for cements is based on the last day of testing period for the shipped cement. Cement must be shipped within 3 months from the last day of testing period.

### Export and Verification at destination

➤ Only products identified in the VOC Iraq certificate of conformity shall be exported. Other goods are allowed as soon as they are not subject to the program (refer to VOC Iraq - List of products and standards available on Verigates).

Inspection is performed at destination to confirm acceptance of the Certificate. It is a part of the customs clearance process

➤ A non conformity report will be issued at destination when the following is found:

- ✓ Non valid certificate of conformity (expired COC)
- ✓ Products subject to the VOC Iraq program but not covered by the certificate of conformity
- ✓ Products with Production dates and Expiry dates different from the dates mentioned in the certificate of conformity
- ✓ Food products with not enough remaining shelf life (see above)
- ✓ Shipping extra quantity of products (not declared in the final invoice and in the certificate of conformity)
- ✓ Certificate of conformity not matching with the goods and/or documents for any aspects



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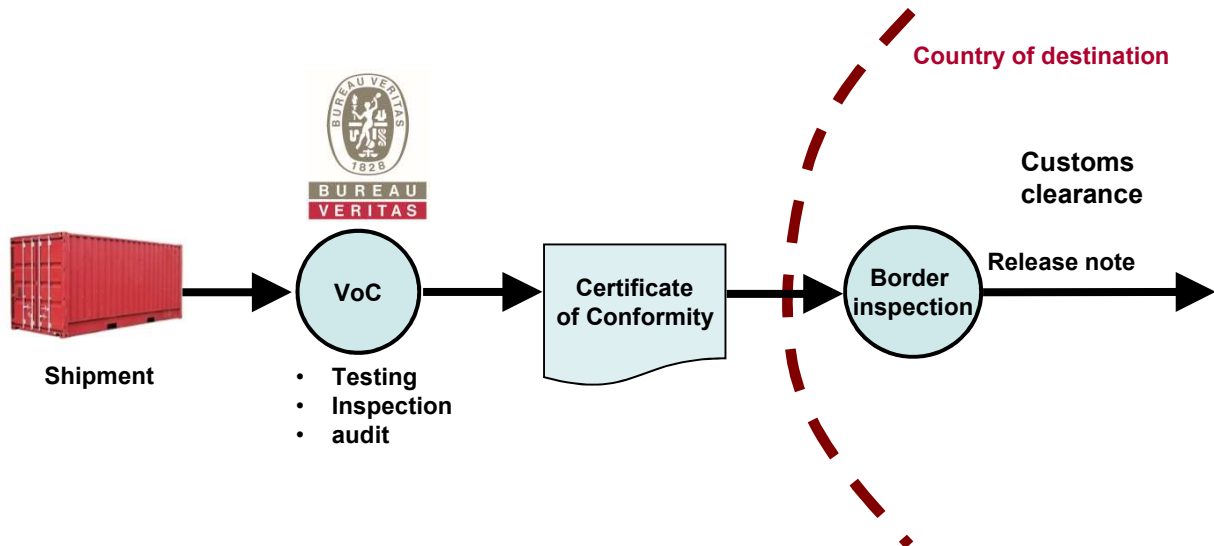


## BORDER INSPECTION PROCESS :

Inspection at Iraqi borders is requested to check:

- ✓ Authentication of the issued Certificate of Conformity,
- ✓ Verification of the matching between Certificate of Conformity, import documents and goods (whenever accessible)
- ✓ Integrity of the seals (whenever applicable),
- ✓ Condition of the shipment (no damage of overall containers).

Inspection company can only accept shipments for which they have issued a Certificate of conformity and which shall lead to issue a release document if it fully complies to agreed VOC Iraq procedures.



Find list of contacts and detailed information about the program on  
<https://verigates.bureauveritas.com>

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