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FDA Reaffirms a Zero Tolerance for Short Weighted Seafood

On February 20th, 2009, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) posted a reminder to the seafood industry that including glaze or ice in the weight of frozen seafood is fraudulent.

The guidance document quotes a policy letter originally written to the seafood industry in 1991, in which the FDA states:

“... The net weight of frozen seafood may not include the weight of glazing (ice)... [The law] prohibits the adulteration of food by adding any substance (such as ice glaze) to increase its bulk or weight... Violations of this kind may be criminally prosecuted under [the law] as felonies since they are committed with the intent to defraud or mislead.”

You can read the full guidance document here:

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/seaglgui.html>

Vigilance against short weighting and other economic cheats is especially important in the current global economic downturn, when unscrupulous suppliers will be increasingly tempted to cut corners.

Action against these unscrupulous suppliers must come not only from smart, well-enforced government regulations, but also from suppliers committing to ethical business standards and informed buyers holding them to their commitments.

ABOUT TRADEX FOODS: Tradex Foods Inc. is a global supplier of quality, fresh frozen seafood. We serve processing, food service and retail clients in North America and throughout the world. Tradex sells only full-weight products, backed by a 100% satisfaction guarantee and an industry-leading, seven-step quality control process.

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