

Changes to Labelling requirements for Consumer Packages of fishery products exported to the Russian Federation:

The Russian Competent Authority for food safety (Rosselkhoznadzor) has notified the various European food authorities including SFPA of a change to the requirements for the labelling applied to consumer packages of fishery products exported to the Russian Federation. Labels on consumer packages of the following groups of food are required to display the following information.

- Frozen fish products:
 - a. For glazed fish products: the net weight shall be indicated **excluding** the weight of the glaze.
 - b. For products produced from frozen fish: the label should include information about re-freezing i.e. notification of secondary refreezing.
 - c. For frozen salted and pickled fish: the label must contain the words “Frozen fish”.

In addition the Russian Competent Authority has also advised that the following requirements will apply:

- I. When processing fish fillets with food additives the moisture content after removing the glaze, shall not exceed 86% of the weight of the fish fillet.
- II. The weight of glaze applied to frozen fish products must not exceed 5% of the net weight.
- III. The weight of the glaze applied to frozen prawn products must not exceed 6% of the net weight.
- IV. The weight of the glaze applied to all other frozen aquatic products must not exceed 8% of the net weight.

These new additions to Russian sanitary and labelling requirements will come into effect from October 1, 2010.

SFPA would like to emphasize that these requirements are only relevant to export consignments of fishery products packaged for direct sale to the final consumer.