

QSPS Consulting LLC

Quality Safe Process Solutions - An Audit Readiness Consulting Group

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Audit Readiness for

SANITARY FOOD TRANSPORTATION ACT (SFTA)

Sanitary Transportation of Human and Animal Food Rule "Sanitary Transportation Rule"

October 17, 2018



Compliance

- The final rule applies to shippers, receivers, loaders and carriers who transport food in the <u>United States</u> <u>by motor or rail vehicle</u>, whether or not the food is offered for or enters <u>interstate commerce</u>.
- Proposed rule: February 5, 2014
- Public comments: More than 200
- Final rule published: April 5, 2016
- "Now Law" all compliance dates have passed







Purpose of SFTA Rule

The rule builds on safeguards envisioned in the 2005 Sanitary Food Transportation Act (SFTA). Because of illness outbreaks resulting from human and animal food contaminated during transportation, and incidents and reports of unsanitary transportation practices, there have long been concerns about the need for regulations to ensure that foods are being transported in a safe manner.



Purpose of SFTA Rule

The rule establishes requirements for shippers, loaders, carriers by motor or rail vehicle, and receivers involved in transporting human and animal food to use sanitary practices to ensure the safety of that food.

Specifically, the FSMA rule <u>establishes requirements</u> for vehicles and transportation equipment, transportation operations, records, training and waivers.





Who is Required to Comply?

- Shippers
- Loaders
- Carriers
- Receivers



Subject to SFTA Rule

- Applies to <u>shippers</u>, <u>loaders</u>, <u>carriers</u> and <u>receivers</u>
 who transport food in the United States by motor or
 rail car. It also may apply to (but not limited to):
 - Foods transported in bulk (i.e. juice, animal feed)
 - Packaged foods not fully enclosed by container (i.e. fresh produce)
 - Food that require temperature control for safety





Shipper

 Arranges for the transportation of food in the United States by a carrier or multiple carriers

Loader

 Loads food onto a motor or rail vehicle during transportation operations

Carrier

 Physically moves food by rail or motor vehicle in commerce within the United States

Receiver

 Receives food at a point in the United States after transportation (whether or not final point of receipt for the food)



Key Requirement of SFTA Rule

- Vehicle and transportation equipment
- Transportation operations
- Training
- Records





Vehicle and transportation equipment

- The <u>design and maintenance</u> of vehicles and transportation equipment must ensure that it does not cause the food that it transports to become <u>unsafe</u>.
- Vehicles and equipment must be <u>suitable and</u>
 adequately cleanable for their intended use and
 <u>capable of maintaining temperatures</u>, if necessary, for
 the safe transport of food.



Transportation operations

- Controls, measures and procedures are in place to ensure food from becoming unsafe during transport such as:
 - Adequate temperature controls
 - Protection from cross-contamination from raw or by non-food items in same load
 - Protection from cross-contact (i.e. food allergens)
 - Bulk load protections with seals and locks



Transportation operations

- Shippers must develop and implement written procedures adequate to ensure:
 - Vehicles and equipment are in appropriate sanitary condition
 - Previous cargo does not make food transported in bulk unsafe
 - Food requiring temperature control for safety is transported under adequate temperature controls



Transportation operations

- <u>Loaders</u>: Must conduct inspection at loading (i.e. vehicle cleanliness, proper pre-cooling for temperature sensitive items, ensure no potential for crosscontamination, etc.).
- <u>Receivers</u>: Upon receipt, assess food for temperature abuse.
- <u>Carriers</u>: If agreed to by contract, demonstrate that shipping's operating temperatures requirements have been met and disclose identity of most prior bulk cargo and cleaning information.



Training

- Requires rail and motor vehicle carriers covered by the rule to provide food safety training to their personnel engaged in transportation operations.
- This <u>requirement applies when</u> the <u>carrier and shipper</u> have agreed in a written contract that the carrier is responsible, in whole or in part, <u>for the sanitary</u> conditions during transportation.
- <u>Carriers</u> are required to establish and <u>maintain records</u> documenting the training of operations personnel.



Training Resource

FDA offers free training module for carriers covered by the Sanitary Transportation of Human and Animal Food Rule.



LINK:

https://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FSMA/ucm576097.htm





Records

- Written agreements or contracts between parties
- Written standard operation procedures (SOPs)
- Training records
- Records must be kept <u>12 months beyond</u> when the procedures (or contracts/written agreements) are in use



SFTA Exemptions

- Shippers, receivers, or carriers \$500,000 in annual revenue
- Transportation activities performed by a farm
- Shipments through the United States to another country
- Transportation of food that is imported for future export and that is neither consumed or distributed in the United States
- Transportation of compressed food gasses
- Transportation of human food byproducts transported for use as animal food without further processing
- Transportation of food that is completely enclosed by a container except a food that requires temperature control for safety
- Transportation of live food animals, except molluscan shellfish



Next Steps: Identify Your Role and How does SFTA Affect Your Company

- Shipper
- Loader
- Carrier
- Receiver



Shipper

Loader

Carrier

Receiver

RESPONSIBILITY

 Provides specifications on requirements for shipping

OPERATION/SOPs

 Equipment maintenance, temperature controls, cleaning and sanitation, prior cargo

TRAINING

All appropriate training records

RESPONSIBILITY

Follow specifications during loading

OPERATION/SOPs

 Loading and trailer inspections, staging, precooling

TRAINING

• Trailer inspections, temperature requirements

RESPONSIBILITY

 Meet specification and communicates deviations when out of specification

OPERATION/SOPs

 Equipment maintenance, temperature controls/monitoring while in transit, cleaning and sanitation

TRAINING

 Safe food handling, food safety hazards, break down procedures, cold chain

RESPONSIBILITY

 Verifies condition of loads, temperatures and trailer conditions

OPERATION/SOPs

 Trailer inspections, reject and hold procedures

TRAINING

All appropriate training records



Tools to Managing SFTA Compliance

Consulting and Data Collection Services

- Consultants familiar with FSMA Requirements
- Experts in Audit Readiness
- ReposiTrak









Tools to Managing SFTA Compliance

FDA Resources

- Web site: www.fda.gov/fsma
- To submit a question about FSMA, visit <u>www.fda.gov/fsma</u> and go to Contact Us







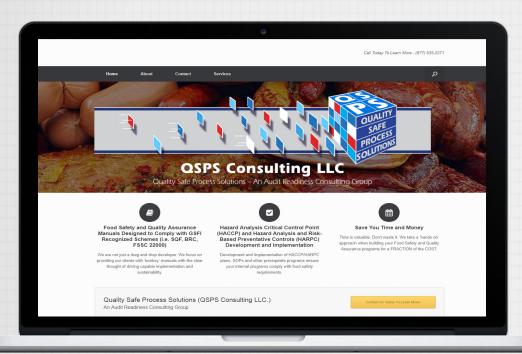






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