

Re-import of consignments subject to border veterinarian control from third countries to Austria

Since 1 July 1999 uniform conditions apply in the EU to the re-import of consignments of goods and items which are subject to checks by a border veterinarian. These conditions have been laid down in article 15 of Council Directive 97/78/EC. They were transposed into Austrian legislation by §§ 22 and 23 of the "Veterinärbehördliche Einfuhrverordnung 2008" (Veterinary Import Regulation 2008), BGBl. II Nr. 474/2008.

Re-import of consignments, which originated in the EU, has been permitted under the following conditions:

Conditions for goods and by-products

The consignment has to be accompanied by the following documents:

1. The **original certificate** issued by the Member state of origin or a copy authenticated by the authorities of the third country that rejected the consignment and
2. either
 - a) in the case of sealed containers bearing the original seal (seal by the competent authority of an EU Member state): by a **certificate from the carrier** stating that the content has not been handled or unloaded
 - or
 - b) in the case of sealed containers no longer bearing the original seal by a **certificate from the rejecting authority** containing the following information:
 - reasons for the rejection;
 - a guarantee that the conditions governing the storage and transport of products have been observed and
 - a guarantee stating that the products concerned have not undergone any handling.
3. The border inspection post, where the consignment is being presented for re-import, has to be provided with a written declaration by the competent authority which issued the original certificate stating that it has agreed to take back the consignment.

Transport from the border inspection post may only take place to the establishment of origin. Transport has to be carried out in tight means of transport that have been identified and sealed by the competent authority.

The official veterinarian competent at the place of destination shall be informed of the arrival of the consignment.

Conditions for live animals

In the case of live animals the conditions for import also apply to re-import. There are exceptions for horses to be re-imported into the EU within 30 days from export, and for pet animals.

Please bear also in mind that there may be import bans or restrictions applicable due to other EU or national legislation, e.g. financial legislation, or legislation pertaining to the protection of endangered species (CITES).

Further information:

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