

On May 30, 2017, compliance began for the Foreign Supplier Verification Program (FSVP) Rule. The regulation was issued to implement section 301 of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and imposes significant new regulatory requirements on food importers. The FSVP Rule requires review and assessment of the food safety practices of foreign suppliers and their compliance history. In addition, foreign suppliers must be approved pursuant to a written program. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has taken the position that trade show samples are generally subject to the requirements.



On each line entry for each shipment of food, an FSVP Importer must be named. The FSVP Importer is responsible for complying with the FSVP requirements. The DUNS number for the FSVP Importer must be provided along with the street address and email address. **Only a U.S. business can serve as the FSVP Importer. Non-U.S. businesses cannot serve as FSVP Importers.**

A U.S. business can be named as the FSVP Importer if it owns the shipment or has a purchase order for the shipment. If there is not a U.S. owner or purchase for the food imported, then the foreign owner or consignee must appoint an agent in the U.S. to act as the FSVP Importer and be named on the customs entry. In many cases samples will not have a U.S. owner or purchases and an FSVP agent must be named as the FSVP Importer.

The National Restaurant Association Show has partnered with [U.S. Food Imports LLC](#) (USFI) who offers FSVP agent services for food product samples. USFI has developed two cloud-based compliance software application called FSMA Cloud® and FDA Cloud™ which are designed to make FSVP compliance as efficient as possible.

USFI can review and approve you under the FSVP program and serve as your FSVP agent to ensure your samples can enter the U.S. and be tasted at the show.

Please note the following foods are exempt from the FSVP requirements and do not need an FSVP agent:

- Seafood
- Beef, Pork, Lamb, Poultry and Liquid Egg Products
- Alcoholic Beverages

Please note that other regulatory requirements apply to these foods.

In addition, please be aware that all product samples (excluding beef, pork, lamb, poultry, catfish and liquid egg products) coming from food manufacturing, processing or off-farm packing facilities **must come from facilities that have registered with FDA**. The FDA-issued food facility registration number is required to be submitted to FDA before the shipment arrives in the U.S. Each food facility registered with FDA is required to have a U.S. agent named. This is a different agent than the FSVP agent. USFI also provides FDA food facility agent services if you require it.

For pricing & more information, please contact:

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