

AUS-MEAT INDUSTRY INFORMATION

AUS-MEAT ACCREDITATION – FURTHER PROCESSOR (FP)

AUS-MEAT Limited is an industry owned company operating as a joint venture between Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) and the Australian Meat Processor Corporation (AMPC). AUS-MEAT runs efficient, disciplined business practices operating under internationally recognised Quality Management Systems: ISO 9001: 2000.

Export Meat Regulations – Further Processors (FP's)

Under the *Australian Meat and Live-Stock Industry Act 1997* a person in management and control of a Meat Export Business must hold an Export Meat Licence. All Export Meat Licence holders must have AUS-MEAT Accreditation before they will be issued with a Licence. A Further Processor is described in the Standards as an 'Enterprise which processes product beyond boning, slicing and trimming that is not described by the AUS-MEAT Language'. The Accreditation requirements for Further Processors are significantly different from the requirements of an Abattoir, Boning Room and Non Packer Exporter (NPE), but all Further Processors requiring an Export Meat Licence must be AUS-MEAT Accredited.

Accreditation Requirements – Further Processors (FP's)

AU-MEAT Limited is cited as the Standards responsible for setting standards for meat for export under Regulation 3 (1) of the Australian Meat and Livestock Industry (Export Licensing) Regulations 1998. AUS-MEAT accreditation is provided to FP's that trade or distribute Australian Meat or Meat Products that have been Further Processed e.g. cured, heat treated, dried, canned, fermented or rendered. All FP's will be required to conform to the National Accreditation Standards and will be subject to an annual accreditation fee and may be subject to an annual audit to determine compliance with the National Accreditation Standards. FP's may elect to subscribe to access the AUS-MEAT On Line Membership information.

Use of the AUS-MEAT Language

The AUS-MEAT Language is a common language which uses objective descriptions to describe meat products accurately to meet market requirements both nationally and internationally. A trade description that conforms to the AUS-MEAT Language is taken to be accurate for the purposes of compliance with export legislation. Where a Further Processor extends the scope of their AUS-MEAT Accreditation to incorporate boning, slicing and trimming of Bovine / Ovine / Caprine products the Accreditation requirements will change and the Enterprise will be subject to the Bonin Room requirements detailed in the National Accreditation Standards.

Quality Management System and Qualified Personnel

Further Processors wishing to be accredited by AUS-MEAT may implement an AUS-MEAT approved Quality Management System designed to ensure consistency of quality and accurate product description. Training is an integral part of AUS-MEAT Accreditation and our Training services are provided to comply with industry standards to ensure trained personnel implement correct use of the AUS-MEAT Language and accurate product description terminology is applied to all meat products. Further Processors may be interested in AUS-MEAT Training.

AUS-MEAT's status as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) ensures Training courses comply with Training and Assessment Standards under the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF).

Further Information

AU-MEAT Limited

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AUS-MEAT Accreditation Process – Further Processor (FP)

FURTHER PROCESSOR (FP) ACCREDITATION

(Accreditation available to Further Processing Enterprises)

Apply for Accreditation

- submit Accreditation application, payment of Application fee
- FP must provide declaration of the type of operation, products processed and any changes to required scope of Accreditation

Where necessary AUS-MEAT may direct an Area manager to visit the Enterprise to determine the Scope of Accreditation.

Area Manager may visit FP to assess scope of Accreditation, capability to conform and compliance with National Accreditation Standards (NAS)

Further Processor will be advised of scope of Accreditation and will be invoiced the Accreditation fee (annual fee) .

Further Processor will be issued Certificate of Accreditation (annual) entered into AUS-MEAT database and information regarding access to AUS-MEAT reference material will be provided (On Line Subscription)

AUS-MEAT Accreditation is awarded. FP can now apply for Export Meat License from AQIS.

Annual review of Accreditation Scope and renewal of Accreditation (Enterprise subject to audit where scope of Accreditation changes)

Further Processor renews Export Meat Licence (annual).