



Meat notice

Meat notice number:	2023-05		
Meat notice title:	Changes to the appearance of Australia's official marks – bolt seals and tamper-indicative seals		
Category:	Legal requirements incl market access requirements		
NSFS reference	Issue date	Date of effect	Review date
5	August 2023	1 October 2023	August 2025
Contact officers	Distribution categories		
officialmarks.exportmeat@aff.gov.au	X Central and regional office X Departmental on-plant officer(s)		
Adam Balcerak Director Export Meat Program 0435 244 366 adam.balcerak@aff.gov.au	X Managers, export meat establishments <input type="checkbox"/> State/Territory regulatory authorities <input type="checkbox"/> Approved Islamic organisations <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Please specify category		

1. Purpose

This notice provides notification of a change in the appearance of official marks – bolt seals and tamper-indicative metal strap seals - and advice regarding the implementation date and ordering arrangements for the new seals.

Note, this Meat Notice, MN23/05, replaces the earlier MN23/03 – which has now been archived - and outlines the process and steps for ordering Departmental bolts and seals. It further provides additional policy context around the colour of bolt seals and for which types of consignments they are to be used for during export operations.

2. Scope

This notice applies to all export registered establishments.

3. Definitions

The following table defines terms used in this notice.

Term	Definition
Official mark – tamper-indicative metal strap seal	<p>As defined in the Export Control Rules 2021. For example, in the <i>Export Control (Meat and Meat Products) 2021</i>, Part 3:</p> <p>8-14 Official mark—tamper-indicative metal strap seal</p> <p>A seal that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) is a tamper-indicative metal strap seal that can be secured in a loop by inserting one end of the seal into or through a protected locking mechanism on the other end; and(b) complies with ISO 17712:2013 <i>Freight containers—Mechanical seals</i>, published by the International Organization for Standardization, as that document exists at the commencement of this instrument; and(c) bears the words “Australian Government”; and(d) bears a unique number, or a unique combination of letters and numbers, provided to the manufacturer of the seal by the Department; <p>is an official mark for the purposes of the Act.</p>
Official mark – bolt seal	<p>As defined in the Export Control Rules 2021. For example, in the <i>Export Control (Meat and Meat Products) 2021</i>, Part 3:</p> <p>8-15 Official mark—bolt seal</p> <p>A seal that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) is a high security bolt seal; and(b) complies with ISO 17712:2013 <i>Freight containers—Mechanical seals</i>, published by the International Organization for Standardization, as that document exists at the commencement of this instrument; and(c) bears the words “Australian Government”; and(d) bears a unique number, or a unique combination of letters and numbers, provided to the manufacturer of the seal by the Department; and(e) is coated with green or blue plastic; <p>is an official mark for the purposes of the Act.</p>

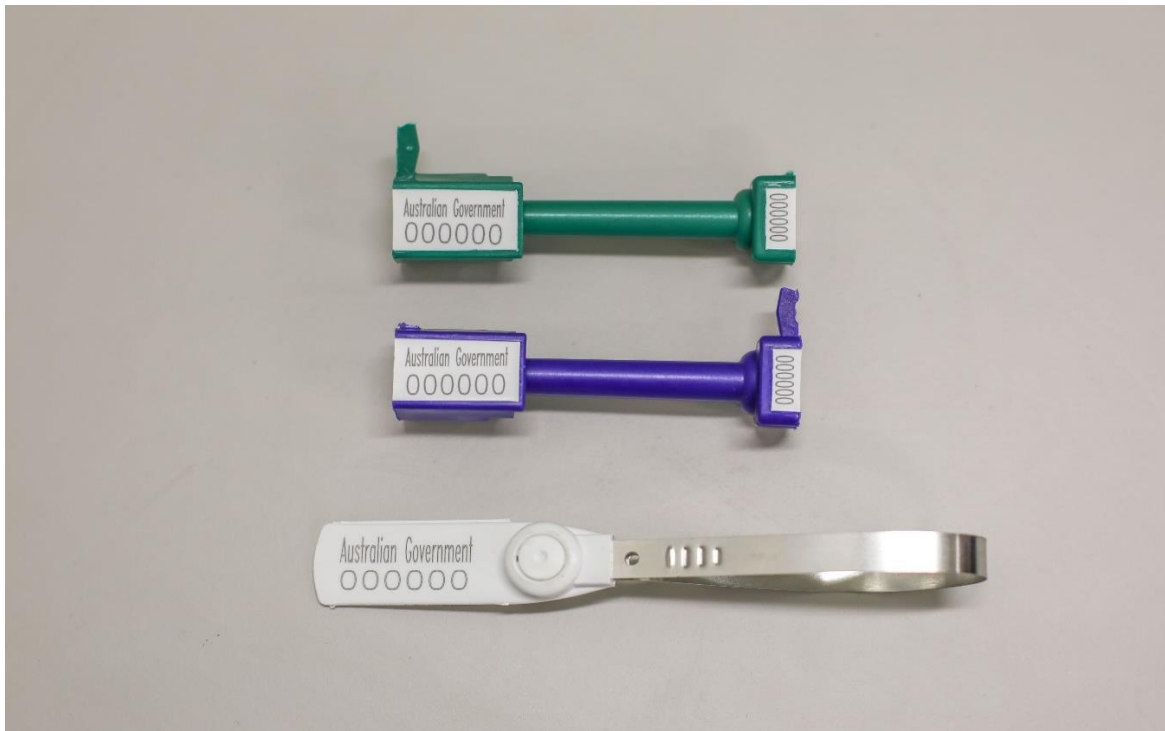
4. Summary of changes

Following a recent tender process, a change in appearance of official marks bolt seals and tamper-indicative metal strap seals will occur.

The implementation date for these changes is **1 October 2023**.

The existing bolt seals and tamper-indicative metal strap seals must cease being applied on **30 September 2023**.

The department will be notifying trading partners of the upcoming changes, including the appearance of the seals to facilitate a smooth transition and prevent any disruptions to trade.



5. Colour bolt seals to be used

Where it is a requirement for the container system unit to be sealed with an official mark - bolt seal, the following colour seals must be used:

- For prescribed goods, green bolt seals (Refer to Table 1)
- For non-prescribed goods, blue bolt seals.

Table 1: When a green bolt seal must be applied to a container system unit

Products	Legislative reference		
	Rules	When the bolt seal must be applied	Who can apply the bolt seal
Prescribed meat or meat products	Export Control (Meat and Meat Products) Rules 2021	5-19	8-26
Prescribed wild game meat or wild game meat products	Export Control (Wild Game Meat and Wild Game Meat Products) Rules 2021	5-14	8-23
Prescribed poultry meat or poultry meat products	Export Control (Poultry Meat and Poultry Meat Products) Rules 2021	5-16	8-22
Prescribed rabbit meat, ratite meat, rabbit meat products or ratite meat products	Export Control (Rabbit and Ratite Meat and Rabbit and Ratite Meat Products) Rules 2021	5-20	8-22

6. Requirements

Establishments are advised to ensure adequate stock levels of current bolts and seals to see through exports until 30 September 2023.

Please email VEMGPlanning&Coord@aff.gov.au should stock levels be inadequate to meet this timeframe. Further information regarding the destruction procedure of current seals will be provided shortly.

7. Seal ordering information for initial rollout

The department has contracted Mega Fortris Pty Ltd to supply and deliver official seals directly to stakeholders.

An updated order form is provided with this meat notice, additionally the order form will be available on the Agriculture website. [Order forms for Container and Tamper-indicative seals - DAFF \(agriculture.gov.au\)](#)

- Seal consignments will be delivered by Direct Freight Express couriers.

- The order form has changed to include additional stakeholder delivery details to assist the courier, Direct Freight Express to find the nominated location.
- The department will continue to receive all seal orders to VEMGPlanning&Coord@aff.gov.au

It is preferred that the seal order form is typed for ease of review and to ensure correct delivery details are used.

Step by Step Instruction

1. Complete all fields of the Seal order form.
2. Forward the completed seal order form to VEMGPlanning&Coord@aff.gov.au.
3. Mega Fortris will receive your seal order from the department and process the order – if received by Mega Fortris prior to 11.00am EDST it will be despatched the same day.
4. Your order can be tracked using the email address provided in the seal order form.
5. Direct Freight Express will deliver your order, depending on your location in 1-10 business days Australia wide.

Contact Information

If you have any questions regarding this Meat Notice, please email officialmarks.exportmeat@aff.gov.au.

Adam Balcerak
Director
Export Meat Program
August 2023

Appendix1 Export Security Seal Order Form

 Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry		Export Security Seal Order Form Email Address: VEMGPlanning&Coord@aff.gov.au		
COMPANY USE ONLY				
To be completed by authorised officer only.		<i>Intentionally left blank</i>		
Establishment No.		Company Name:		
Requesting Officer: (printed name)		Address:		
Signature:		Special Instructions for Delivery:		
Date:		Hours of Operation:		
Company Email Address:		Company Contact Name:		
		Company Contact Phone Number:		
Ident. No	Description of Item/s	UOI	Quantity Required	Quantity Issued
CMF01216-6	2K KLC Bolt Seals - Green (supplied in boxes of 200)	BOX		
CMF01216-5	2K KLC Bolt Seals - Blue (supplied in boxes of 200)	BOX		
CMF01115	DAFF SP Domino Seals – White (previously known as tamper indicative seals) (supplied in boxes of 1000)	BOX		

When seals are received by the establishment, quantity and serial numbers received must be checked against a copy of the processed order form and signed by an Authorised Signatory of the establishment and returned to the Department Authorised Officer. Seals must only be used by the establishment on the Order Form. Seals must not be used at any other establishment or by any person who is not authorised.

**Please return this order form to the department for processing – email VEMGPlanning&Coord@aff.gov.au. This order will be distributed directly from the supplier's warehouse to the street address provided above. Please include any additional instructions that will assist your order to be delivered promptly.