



SLOVENSKI STANDARD

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Traceability of fishery products - Specification on the information to be recorded in captured fish distribution chains

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CEN**CWA 14660****WORKSHOP**

February 2003

AGREEMENT

ICS 65.150; 67.120.30

English version

Traceability of fishery products - Specification on the information to be recorded in captured fish distribution chains

This CEN Workshop Agreement has been drafted and approved by a Workshop of representatives of interested parties, the constitution of which is indicated in the foreword of this Workshop Agreement.

The formal process followed by the Workshop in the development of this Workshop Agreement has been endorsed by the National Members of CEN but neither the National Members of CEN nor the CEN Management Centre can be held accountable for the technical content of this CEN Workshop Agreement or possible conflicts with standards or legislation.

This CEN Workshop Agreement can in no way be held as being an official standard developed by CEN and its Members.

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Foreword

This CEN Workshop Agreement has been drafted and approved by a Workshop of representatives of interested parties on November 8th. 2002, the constitution of which was supported by CEN following the public call for participation made on March 8th. 2002.

A list of the individuals and organizations which supported the technical consensus represented by the CEN Workshop Agreement is available to purchasers from the CEN Management Centre. These organizations were drawn from the following incomplete list of economic sectors : Fish industry, Fish farming industry, IT industry, Research institutions, NGO's, Retailers, Regulatory authorities, EU Commission.

The formal process followed by the Workshop in the development of the CEN Workshop Agreement has been endorsed by the National Members of CEN. However neither the National Members of CEN nor the CEN Management Centre can be held accountable for the technical content of the CEN Workshop Agreement or possible conflict with standards or legislation. This CEN Workshop Agreement can in no way be held as being an official standard developed by CEN and it's members.

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Comments or suggestions from the users of the CEN Workshop Agreement are welcome and should be addressed to the CEN Management Centre.

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Introduction

There are increasing demands for detailed information on the nature and origin of food products. Traceability is becoming a legal and commercial necessity. Transmission of all the required information physically with the products would, in many instances, be impracticable and so the use of information technology is preferable.

The ISO definition of traceability concerns the ability to trace the history, application and location of that which is under consideration, and for products this can include the origin of materials and parts and processing history. Traceability includes not only the principal requirement to be able to physically trace products through the distribution chain, from origin to destination and vice versa, but also to be able to provide information on what they are made of and what has happened to them. These further aspects of traceability are important in relation to food safety, quality and labelling.

The *Tracefish* concept is an electronic system of chain traceability. It was developed under the patronage of the European Commission in its Concerted Action project QLK1-2000-00164.

Participation in the Tracefish scheme is voluntary but in order for it to function, there have to be agreed protocols for the system. For this purpose, three specifications have been developed:

- an information specification for captured fish distribution chains i.e. what information should be generated and held by the food businesses;
- a similar information specification for farmed fish distribution chains;

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- and a technical specification for the electronic encoding of the data.

The information specifications are CEN Workshop Agreements and the web-based technical specification is published on www.tracefish.org

The key to the operation of the scheme is the labelling of each unit of goods traded, whether of raw materials or finished products, with a unique ID. This is to be done by the food business that creates each unit. Businesses that transform units, such as processors who convert the units of raw materials received into the products dispatched, create new units and must give them new IDs.

Each of the food businesses that create or physically trade in those units, throughout the distribution chains from catcher or farmer through to retailer or caterer, are to generate and hold the information necessary for traceability. The information is to be held on computer databases, keyed to the unit IDs.

The information remains in the ownership of the food business that generated it but is available when required by law for the purposes of traceability (in the event of a food safety problem) or by commercial agreement between businesses. The means of communicating the information is standardised so that it can be readily accessed from business to business through the distribution chains, when required.

This is a development beyond the forthcoming EU legal requirement, coming into force January 1st 2005, for each food business to independently record sources of supplies and destinations of foods, but builds on that basis.

Commercial arrangements for businesses to communicate information through the distribution chains are to be encouraged, particularly for the information desired by the trade to be *visible* at the various transaction points in the chains, but that is not the subject of this document.

The method of identifying the units of goods traded is based on the EAN.UCC system that is already in use throughout the world. The information is keyed to unique IDs given to the individual trade units (e.g. boxes of fish or cases of products) but the scheme also accommodates trade in logistic units made up of numbers of trade units (e.g. pallets of boxes or cases). Businesses that create logistic units have to label them with a logistic unit ID and also record the IDs of the component trade units.

The Tracefish scheme does not demand perfect traceability, i.e. that a particular retail product should be traceable back to a single vessel or farm and batch of origin, or vice versa from origin to destination. Pragmatically it is recognised that mixing of units is likely to occur at a number of stages in the distribution chains, e.g. in grading at auction markets prior to sale and in the processing of raw materials into products. Where such mixing occurs, the food business is transforming the trade units. The requirement for traceability is that the business records the IDs of the received trade units that may be input to each created trade unit, and vice versa. The particular product is then traceable back to a finite number of vessels or farms and batches of origin, and vice versa.

The information itemised in the specifications for recording by the food businesses includes:

- the fundamental information necessary to identify and physically trace the products, that shall be recorded;
- specific information that is required by law in relation to food safety, quality and labelling, together with important elements of commercially desirable information related to those matters, that should be recorded;
- and further specific and commercial information considered to be of sufficient relevance to be included in the specifications, that may be recorded.

Given the enormous variety of fishery products and of their distribution chains that operate within and between different countries, and varying legal requirements, the information specifications cannot itemise all the information that may possibly be required in every situation. The specifications provide a generic basis for traceability. Flexibility is allowed for businesses to record further information, in their own non-standardised files, but keyed to the unit IDs.

Although virtually every distribution chain is different, they all appear to be made up of a number of characteristic components or *building blocks*. The types of business identified in this document for captured fish distribution chains are:

- fishing vessels;
- vessel landing businesses and auction markets;
- processors;
- transporters and storers;
- traders and wholesalers;
- and retailers and caterers.

Any given captured fish distribution chain may be made up of some or all of these components but not necessarily in the sequence listed. Further types of primary production business are identified in the farmed fish document.

The information specifications separately tabulate the information to be recorded by each of these types of business. Some businesses may carry out the functions of more than one of the types listed, for example distribution businesses may act as *wholesalers* and as *transporters*, in which case those businesses must record the relevant information requirements for each of the functions carried out.

There are limitations to this approach, for example it does not fit to the specialised requirements of live bivalve mollusc distribution chains, and so this initial information specification is limited in scope to the distribution for human consumption of captured finfish and their products. The captured and farmed fish information specifications are substantially the same from processing onward.

Pragmatically it is recognised that some supplies of fish products and supplies of ingredients, etc, will come from outside of the Tracefish domain and may lack the required IDs and information records. To accommodate this, a business that brings in fish and materials from outside of the Tracefish domain is required to generate and hold the key information necessary for the traceability of the units brought in, and if they are to be traded on, to label those units with the required IDs.

CEN Workshop Agreements are not *tablets of stone*. They can be revisited, amended and extended. These initial specifications could be extended in the future to include further detail and the requirements of more specialised distribution chains, including those for shellfish and for fishmeal and oil.

These specifications will provide a basis for IT service providers to develop business solutions (applications) for the trade. The information specifications do not preclude the use of paper systems, although the obvious benefits of business efficiency, including rapid communication, will be lost.

Further information on the background to the development of the Tracefish scheme and on its philosophy is given in informative annexes A and B.

1 Scope

This document specifies the information to be recorded in distribution chains in order to establish the traceability of fishery products.

It specifies how fishery products traded are to be identified and the information to be generated and held on those products by each of the food businesses that physically trade them through the distribution chains.

It is applicable to the distribution for human consumption of captured finfish and their products, from fishing vessels through to retailers or caterers.

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Together with CWA 14659 and <www.tracefish.org> it provides a basis for implementing chain traceability in the fish industry.

2 Normative references

This CWA incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this CWA only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies (including amendments).

CWA 14659 *Traceability of fishery products — Specification of the information to be recorded in farmed fish distribution chains*

www.tracefish.org *Traceability of fishery products — Specification of the encoding of information*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this CWA, the following terms and definitions apply:

3.1

traceability

ability to trace the history, application or location of that which is under consideration

NOTE when considering products traceability can relate to

- the origin of materials and parts; [SIST CWA 14660:2004](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/9b1ccea-fa6c-4bec-a3cd-e8ce859ceb96/sist-cwa-14660-2004)
- the processing history. <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/9b1ccea-fa6c-4bec-a3cd-e8ce859ceb96/sist-cwa-14660-2004>

(NS-EN ISO 9000:2000)

3.2

trade unit

any item (product or service) upon which there is a need to retrieve pre-defined information and that may be priced, or ordered, or invoiced at any point in any supply chain. This definition covers services and products, all of which may have pre-defined characteristics (2002 General EAN.UCC Specifications Section 2.1.1.1)

3.3

logistic unit

an item of any composition established for transport and/or storage that needs to be managed through the supply chain (2002 General EAN.UCC Specifications Section 2.2.1)

4 Symbols and abbreviations

AI – EAN.UCC system Application Identifier

EAN – EAN International

EAN.UCC system – Unique global identification system

EFSIS –European Food Safety Inspection Service

FAO – Food and Agricultural Organization of United Nations

GLN– EAN.UCC system Global Location Number

GMP – Good Manufacturing Practice.

GTIN – EAN.UCC system Global Trade Item Number.

GTIN+ – GTIN plus a further number to uniquely identify each particular trade unit (e.g. the production batch and serial number or the date and time of production).

HACCP – Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points.

ID – Identification.

MSC – Marine Stewardship Council

n2 or n14, etc – EAN.UCC identifier numbers consisting of 2 or 14, etc digits

SSCC – EAN.UCC system Serial Shipping Container Code

UCC – Uniform Code Council

5 Requirements

5.1 The Identification of the units traded

Fishery products shall be traded as uniquely identified and labelled units.

Businesses that create trade units shall identify and label each of them with a GTIN+.

Businesses that create logistic units, made up of numbers of separately identified trade units, shall identify and label each logistic unit with a SSCC.

Businesses that bring in supplies of fishery products from outside of the domain of the Tracefish specifications and trade them onwards, shall identify and label each unit traded onward with the business's own EAN.UCC identifiers as above.

5.2 The recording of information

Businesses that physically trade in fishery products shall generate and hold the required information, appropriate to the type of business, for each of the units traded.

The detailed information requirements are tabulated below as follows:

- for fishing vessels in 5.3;
- for vessel landing businesses and auctions in 5.4;
- for processors in 5.5;
- for transporters and storers in 5.6;
- for traders and wholesalers in 5.7;
- for retailers and caterers in 5.8;
- and additional requirements for businesses that bring in fish and materials from outside of the Tracefish domain, in 5.9.

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Businesses that carry out the functions of more than one of the categories listed above shall record the information relevant to each of the functions carried out.

The data elements tabulated in table 1 to table 7 categorised as *shall* are considered to be fundamental information necessary to identify and physically trace the products. These elements must be recorded.

The data elements tabulated in table 1 to table 7 categorised as *should* are specific information required by law in relation to food safety, quality and labelling together with important elements of commercially desirable information related to those matters. It is recommended that these elements are recorded.

The data elements tabulated in table 1 to table 7 categorised as *may* are further specific information required by law and commercially desirable information, considered to be of sufficient relevance to be included in the document. Businesses may choose to record these elements.

NOTE In these tabulations there is no repetition of the information originally recorded to describe the units created and their history, although businesses receiving those units later in the distribution chain will often need some of that information. The information is keyed to the unit IDs and can be supplied by commercial agreement between the businesses without having to re-input the data.

5.3 Fishing vessels

For the purposes of this document, *fishing vessels* are considered to be vessels that catch fish, that may carry out basic operations on the fish such as bleeding, gutting, heading, washing, grading and weighing, and then stow the fish and transport it to the point of discharge. Fish may also be frozen on fishing vessels. Fishing vessels may carry out their own discharging operations that may include grading, weighing and boxing the fish on discharge, prior to dispatch of their products into the hands of the next food business. Alternatively, the next food business may discharge the fishing vessel.

The trade units created by fishing vessels can range from single large fish or boxes of graded fish that have been individually labelled by the vessel, to the entire hold of mixed fish passed into the hands of the next food business.

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Fishing vessels such as factory vessels, that carry out further processing operations such as filleting, are considered to be both *fishing vessels* and *processors*.

Table 1 — Detailed information requirements for fishing vessels

Data element		Description	Examples	Categorisation		
				Shall	Should	May
VESSEL						
CFV01	Food business ID	Name and address or GLN of food business that operates vessel	Humber Trawlers, Albert Dock, Hull, HU1 7AR, England (n3+n13)	x		
CFV02	Vessel ID	Nationality, name and registration number or GLN of vessel	UK, 'Phoenix', H123 or n3+n13	x		
CFV03	GMP certification	Names of fish quality or food safety GMP schemes by which vessel is certified	EFSIS			x
FOR EACH TRADE UNIT CREATED						
Identity						
CFV04	Trade unit ID	GTIN+ (n2+n14+AI's)	(01) 07012345000001 (10) 0000000125	x		
Description						
CFV05	Type of unit	Description of physical type of unit (single fish, box, tank, hold, block or package of fish, etc)	Box	x		
CFV06	Net weight	Recorded as a weighed or estimated quantity of fish (kg)	Estimated, 45 kg	x		
CFV07	Species	Latin names or FAO 3alpha codes (may be several species)	Gadus morrhua or COD	x		
CFV08	Area/country of origin	FAO area for marine fish or country of origin for fish from inland waters, or more specific location	27	x		
CFV09	Product form	Whole, gutted or headed, etc.	Gutted	x		
CFV10	Size grade	Nominal weight (kg) or length (cm) range, or ungraded	3-4 kg		x	
CFV11	Product condition	Live, ambient, chilled or frozen	Chilled	x		
Production history						
CFV12	Date of capture or sailing	Preferably recorded as date when fish brought on board but otherwise recorded as date when vessel left port	Captured 2002-06-23 or sailed 2002-06-21	x		
CFV13	Fishing method	Trawl, long line or gill net, etc (FAO alpha code)	OTB		x	
CFV14	Trawl or soak time	Time (hrs) between setting fishing gear and bringing it back aboard	4 hrs			x
CFV15	Ethical aspects of fishery	Names of sustainable fishing schemes by which fishery is certified, and specific environmental benefits of fishing gear (dolphin friendly, etc).	MSC			x
CFV16	Size grading method	Manual or mechanical, done at sea or on landing (only applicable if graded)	Manual, on landing			x

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Data element		Description	Examples	Categorisation		
				Shall	Should	May
CFV17	Weighing method	Done at sea or on landing (only applicable if weighed)	On landing			x
CFV18	Stowage method	Boxed, bulked, seawater tanks, brine tanks or cold storage, etc.	Boxed		x	
CFV19	Storage temperature control method	None, iced, iced and refrigerated or refrigerated	Iced and refrigerated		x	
CFV20	Storage temperature record	Temperature/time log of the stowage area (fish room, tank or cold store, etc)	Series of temperature (°C)/date and time points		x	
FOR EACH LOGISTIC UNIT CREATED						
Identities						
CFV21	Logistic unit ID	SSCC	n2+n18	x		
CFV22	Trade unit IDs	List of GTIN+s of the trade units that make up the logistic unit	List of n2+n14+Al's	x		
FOR EACH UNIT DISPATCHED (either as a logistic unit or a separate trade unit)						
Identity						
CFV23	Unit ID	SSCC if dispatched as a logistic unit or GTIN+ if dispatched as a trade unit	n2+n18 or n2+n14+Al's	x		
Destination						
CFV24	Next food business ID	Name and address or GLN of the food business to whom the unit is dispatched (landing business, transporter, auction or processor, etc.)	The Fish Auction Company, 12 George Street, London, NW3 4TU, England or n3+n13	x		
CFV25	Date and time of dispatch	Date and time of transfer to next food business	2002-06-28T04:00	x		
CFV26	Place of dispatch	Name and address of place of landing or GLN or international ID code of the port, or approximate latitude and longitude if transferred at sea	Humber Fish Auction, Albert Dock, Hull, HU4 1AR, England or n3+n13	x		

5.4 Vessel landing businesses and auction markets

For the purposes of this document, *vessel landing businesses* are considered to be businesses that discharge vessels and/or carry out basic fish handling operations such sorting, grading and weighing fish on landing. They may combine the catches of several vessels.

Auction markets are considered to be businesses that hold fish for sale by competitive bidding. They may also discharge vessels and sort, grade and weigh fish prior to sale.

Vessel landing businesses and auction markets may land or auction intact trade units or even intact logistic units but commonly create new trade units.