

## Certification Requirements for Pet Foods to Costa Rica from the United States

Exporting facilities must be approved by Costa Rica. Information concerning the approval process is available from SENASA's website on <http://www.senasa.go.cr/informacion/centro-de-informacion/informacion/sgc/dca/dca-pg-02-requisitos-sanitarios-para-importacion/cuestionarios-para-la-habilitacion-de-establecimientos-exportadores>.

The following certification statements, as applicable, should be provided on a VS Form 16-4 for the export of canned, extruded (pelleted or biscuits), or semi-moist pet foods containing animal origin ingredients. Product description (product box on VS Form 16-4) should include the species of origin for all animal origin ingredients, as well as the nature of the product. Certification statements should be given in English and in Spanish; Costa Rica may require a separate official translation.

The Area office has on file a notarized affidavit from [company name] verifying the accuracy of the statements below. / *La Oficina de Área tiene en sus archivos una declaración notariada de [nombre de la compañía] certificando la veracidad de las afirmaciones enunciadas a continuación:*

1. The product is freely sold in the United States as pet food. The product has been manufactured in plants authorized by the official competent authority of the United States. / *El producto se comercializa libremente en los Estados Unidos como alimento para mascotas. El producto ha sido elaborado en plantas autorizadas por la autoridad oficial correspondiente de los Estados Unidos.*
2. The product has been manufactured in accordance with U.S. laws and regulations designed to validate microbial, physiochemical, and compositional quality. / *El producto ha sido elaborado de acuerdo de las leyes y regulaciones de los Estados Unidos diseñadas para validar calidad microbiológica, fisicoquímica y composicional.*
3. During its preparation, the pet food product was subjected to a treatment \_\_\_\_\_ (specify) intended to destroy bacterial and viral pathogenic microorganisms transmissible through the product. / *El alimento ha sido sometido durante su elaboración a un tratamiento para la destrucción de cualquier agente patógeno bacteriano y viral transmisible a través del producto. (indicar el tratamiento)*  
[Note: Include the temperature applied only when the treatment used for the destruction of bacterial and viral pathogens relies on temperature].
4. The pet food products described herein are unlikely to disseminate agents of infectious diseases of domestic animals, including foot-and-mouth disease, avian influenza Newcastle disease, and classical swine fever. Precautions have been taken to avoid contamination of the product with pathogenic agents after heat treatment. / *Los alimentos para mascotas descritos en este documento presentan poca probabilidad de diseminar agentes de enfermedades infecciosas para los animales domésticos, incluyendo fiebre aftosa, influenza aviar, enfermedad Newcastle y*

*peste porcina clásica. Se han tomado las precauciones para evitar contaminación del producto con agentes patógenos después del tratamiento térmico.*

5. Precautions have been taken during processing and storage of cat food products to prevent any commingling or cross-contamination with prohibited ruminant-origin materials. / *Se han tomado las debidas precauciones durante el procesamiento y almacenamiento de alimento para gatos para evitar contaminación cruzada con ingredientes prohibidos de origen rumiante.*

6. Cat food contains no ruminant origin ingredients except (include as applicable): 1) dairy; 2) protein free tallow with a maximum level of insoluble impurities of 0.15% in weight; 3) ovine or bovine (specify) ingredients legally imported from Australia, New Zealand, or other countries (list as applicable) recognized as free of scrapie and negligible risk for bovine spongiform encephalopathy; 4) bovine ingredients not containing BSE specific risk materials pertaining to human consumption, and 5) hides and skins. / *Alimento para gatos no contiene materiales de origen rumiante excepto (incluir según el caso) 1) lácteos 2) cebo desproteínizado con un nivel máximo de impurezas insolubles del 0.15% en peso; 3) ingredientes de origen ovino o bovino legalmente importados de Australia o Nueva Zelanda o de otros países reconocidos libres de prurigo lumbar y de riesgo insignificante para la encefalopatía espongiiforme bovina (lista según el caso); 4) ingredientes bovinos los cuales no contienen materiales de riesgo específicos para EEB; y 5) cueros y pieles*