Registrar Corp*

144 Research Drive, Hampton, Virginia 23666 USA

Phone: +1-757-224-0177 * Fax: +1-757-224-0179 * Email: info@registrarcorp.com * Website: www.registrarcorp.com

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Lao Embassy 2222 S St. NW Washington, DC 20008

Good Day,

Registrar Corp assists manufacturers and exporters in Lao with U.S. Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") compliance. Since companies in Lao look to you for assistance regarding FDA requirements, we would like to remind you of two upcoming compliance deadlines affecting food and beverage exports to the United States.

October 1, 2018: FDA Food Facility Registration Renewal Requirement

The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), signed into law by President Barack Obama in 2011, requires that food facilities renew their registrations with FDA between October 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018. Shipments from Lao may be refused entry to the United States when the associated food facility registration is not renewed properly.

January 1, 2020: New Labeling Requirements

FDA finalized new rules that mandate significant changes to the Nutrition Facts labels for food, beverages and dietary supplements. Labeling errors are a leading cause of FDA detentions. Companies in Lao should begin reviewing their labels now to assure compliance with the new FDA requirements.

In addition to these upcoming deadlines, facilities should be aware that the compliance deadlines have passed for the FSMA Preventive Controls Rule for both small and large facilities. This rule requires facilities to implement written Hazard Analysis and Risk-Based Preventive Controls (HARPC) Food Safety Plans. Plans such as HACCP, BRC, ISO and SQF do not satisfy this new requirement. Facilities that have not yet developed their plan should do so immediately. FDA may request a facility's Food Safety Plan as part of a routine inspection. Additionally, the U.S. importer will likely request a copy of the facility's plan to fulfill the importer's requirements under FDA's Foreign Supplier Verification Program (FSVP) rule.

If exporters from Lao have doubts about any of the above requirements, Registrar Corp's team of multilingual Regulatory Specialists can provide support. Registrar Corp can properly renew a food facility's FDA registration and serve as U.S. Agent for FDA communications. Additionally, Registrar Corp can review an exporter's labels and Food Safety Plans to assure compliance.

For more information, contact one of our Regulatory Advisors by phone: +1-757-224-0177 or by using "Live Help" chat online with an Advisor 24-hours a day at www.registrarcorp.com/livehelp.

Coley Anderson

Director of Industry and Government Relations

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Office: (757) 224-0177 ext. 357 | Mobile: (757) 285-4568 | canderson@registrarcorp.com