

Year End Work

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Competent Authority Team

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INSPECTION OF FACILITIES

Safety in fish products begins with quality maintenance of facilities

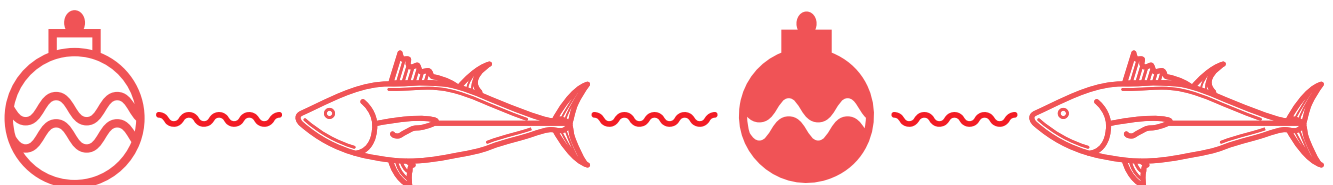


Inspect to assure quality

Written by the CA team

The Competent Authority team did a new round of inspections for the processing facilities/landing site for PPF, MIFV, KMI, and PII, to monitor and ensure compliance of the new RMI standards for fish processing/landing sites and fishing vessels. These inspections have provided assurance to the CA team that the industry is moving forward with the improvement of the standards of their facilities towards the future RMI fish exports.

Good Plants structures and hygiene forms the first step in ensuring a safe environment for the production of food and fish. Food safety and quality is everyone's business!

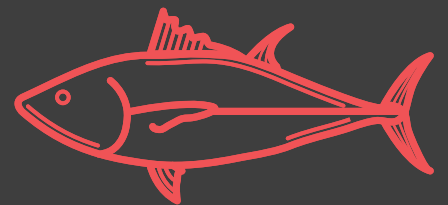


Traceability Training

Traceability Increases Product Integrity and Quality

Traceability is one of the essential processes in export certification. The CA team conducted a traceability assessment on MIFV to confirm if MIFV has the necessary procedures and systems in place, to confirm the integrity of the landed products when handled throughout the various stages of operations during exporting. Traceability will form one of the integral requirements to ensure products are sourced from a legal source.

The CA team undertook that exercise as part of learning as well as part of its inspection. The CA officers, Tatiana and Lyla, along with their intern Faith, went through the documents provided by MIFV to trace the product from initial period of first landing, to period of exporting, to ensure all chain of activities are fully traceable by a unique code. The exercise provided the team a full understanding of MIFV's fish handling process, and how to trace MIFV's products if necessary e.g. during a recall.



Internal Audit Training

Providing Independent Assurance

The Competent Authority team along with industry members participated in a two-day workshop in which they learned/practiced internal auditing. The training was facilitated by the CA and conducted by PPF's QC Manager, Dexter Martinez. Martinez was generous enough to share his knowledge on internal auditing with his fellow industry personnel. The industry was notified to bring in employees from different departments along with the Quality Assurance department. This training was for those that are not in the QA department to audit their own processes ensuring if the organization's governance, risk management, and internal control processes are operating effectively. The groups were divided into two (PPF & MIFV teams), with each team having one CA officer, a pair of observers from KMI & PII (who are new to the industry), and one intern. The exercise provided participants a great opportunity to understand their company's processes and verify if everything in their documents is being followed.

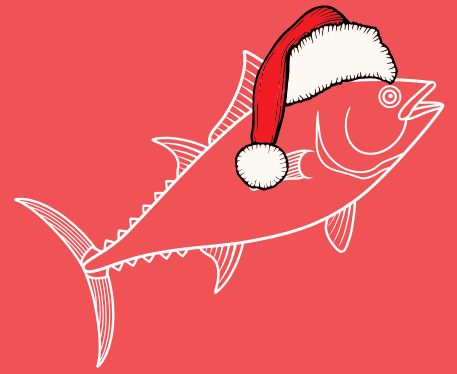
The training brought together the existing members of the industry who have some knowledge and experience in this field and the new operators. Internal audits are one of the essential elements of all operations to ensure problems are identified and corrected before being assessed by external entities.



Group photo of participants for the Internal Audit Training
Participants from MIFV, PPF, PII, & KMI and CA Team



**THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY
TEAM WISHES ALL A HAPPY
HOLIDAYS & NEW YEAR!**



Competent Authority Advisor, Officers, & Intern

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