

Foreign Official Laboratories

The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) has accepted the test results issued by Foreign Official Laboratories from April 1, 1982, the purpose of which is to streamline and accelerate import procedures for voluntary inspection which is conducted by an importer.

Importers can use the testing results issued by the Foreign Official Laboratories, if the Foreign Official Laboratories were listed by the MHLW.

The details of procedure for registration are shown as below.

【Procedure for registration】

1. Addition to / Deletion from the list

The foreign embassy in Japan	→	The Ministry of Foreign Affairs	→	The MHLW
Notification			Notification	

2. Name / Address change of the Foreign Official Laboratories

The foreign embassy in Japan	→	The MHLW
Notification		

(1) Conditions for accepting the test results

Foreign Official Laboratories are 1) or 2) as below,

- 1) Examination agencies established by the exporting country or state
- 2) Laboratories approved or designated by the exporting country or state

They also have to carry out inspection by internationally recognized method (such as AOAC method).

(2) Acceptance of the test results

The test results by Foreign Official Laboratories will be treated as equivalent to those by the registered laboratories in Japan.

(3) Exclusions

Inspection items for which the sanitary condition is liable to change during transport by ship or air (for example; bacteria and mycotoxin) are excluded from the above acceptance.