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Guidelines on Alcohol Beverage Sample Submission for COA Testing

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FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

This report summarizes the Thai Excise Department's guidelines on alcohol beverage sample submissions for Certificate of Analysis (COA) Testing.

Guidelines on Alcohol Beverage Sample Submissions for COA Testing

Background report: [Gain Report No. TH8046](#) - Thai Government Extends Timeline for Full Implementation of Certificate of Analysis Testing dated March 20, 2018

On March 22, 2018, the Thai Excise Department issued guidelines on the submission of alcohol beverage samples for quality compliance testing to meet Thai industrial product standards as part of the import license application. Below is a summary of the document:

1. For import permit applications until September 14, 2018:
 - 1.1. For any importer who has already submitted product samples to be tested/approved by the Excise Department and the product's quality complies with the Thai industrial product standards, the importer can use the test results report issued by the Excise Department's Laboratory for import permit applications for future shipments. The importer will be required to submit additional product samples only when there is a change in the production process.
 - 1.2. For any importer who intends to import alcohol beverages into the Kingdom and has not yet submitted product samples to be tested/approved; the importer is permitted to apply for an import permit without having the test results report. The importer is obligated to submit product samples to be tested within 30 days from the day the alcohol beverage is imported into the Kingdom.
 - 1.3. Any importer who wants to submit product samples to be tested/approved prior to the import permit application can submit samples to Excise the Department for testing. This applies only to import permits for normal commercial sales and not for bonded warehouses or duty free shops.
2. Any importer who submits the import permit application request after September 14, 2018 has to strictly comply with 1.1 and 1.3 as the full implementation of COA testing will begin on September 14, 2018.
3. Any importer that intends to submit product samples as per 1.2 and 1.3 has to submit their request letter along with an alcohol beverage sample not less than 0.50 liters to the Thai Excise Department. If the alcohol beverage bottle is less than 0.50 liters, additional samples are required to reach a quantity of 0.50 liters. For alcohol beverages in different sized containers that bear the same name, alcohol percentage, and are produced from the same manufacturer, a sample of any container size is accepted. The sample submission as per 1.2 should be sent to regional office of the Excise Department while a sample submission as per 1.3 should be sent to the Excise Department office where the importer's office is located.
4. The test results report will be issued by the Goods and Exhibits Analysis Group under the Excise Department and can be used for future shipments as long as there are no changes in the alcohol beverage production process. Changes in wine vintages do not require additional samples to be submitted so long as the production method remains unchanged.

End of the Report.