

Department	FOOD SAFETY
Ministry	MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Mandate/Responsibilities

Ministry of Health, Food Safety is responsible for ensuring that Barbados have a supply of safe food, including that which is imported. This is accomplished, in part, by enforcing the laws and regulations governing the importation food products, including issuing import permits, inspection certificates and phytosanitary certificates for export products.

Impact of Electronic Single Window (ESW)

Traders can create and submit license, permit, certificate and other form (LPCO) applications, edit previously created applications and obtain approval, all online without having to physically visit the Participating Government Agency (PGA) offices. Multiple PGAs can review applications at the same time and traders benefit from improved transparency of the process.

Interactive tools will guide traders, or those interested in trading, through the product classification process. This will reduce errors in describing commodities, account for trade agreements, provide duty rates, outline requirements and determine what LPCOs are needed, thereby improving data quality and expediting the approval process.

Under ESW, the Ministry of Health will have an efficient, streamlined electronic certification process, receive better quality data, be able to ask questions of traders to clarify the nature of the subject goods and benefit from the coordination of the approval process among agencies. The ESW will provide the Ministry of Health with a suite of customizable reports to access trade data immediately, and a data warehouse that can be used in the future to develop its own reports.

The Ministry will also have an enhanced ability to schedule inspections and inspectors. In addition, inspectors will have the ability to release shipments onsite using mobile devices.

Web Site

<http://health.gov.bb/>

December 2015