



The importance of Animal Identification for food traceability

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"Key Principles of Creation of National Systems of Identification and Traceability of Farm Livestock"

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What is traceability?



International
Organization for
Standardization

ISO 8402:1994

- *Traceability is the ability to trace the history, application or location of an entity by means of recorded information*



What is traceability?

Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

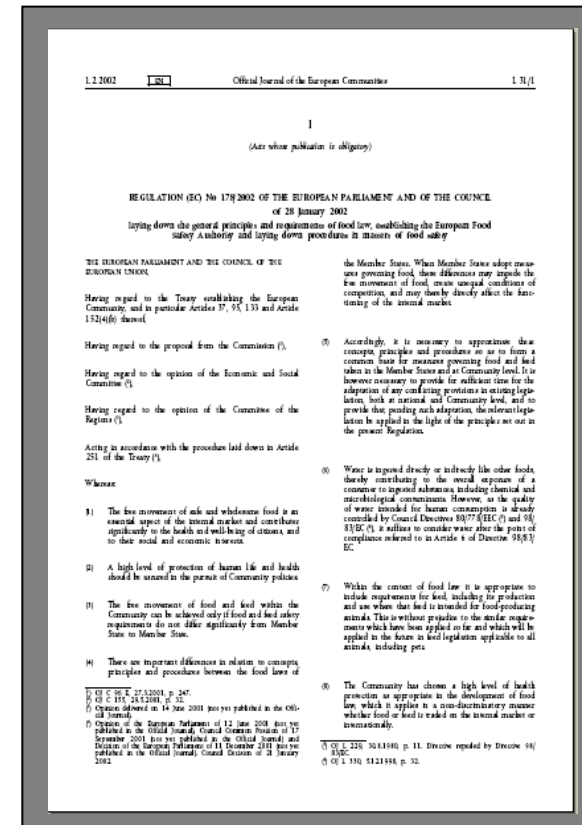
Traceability means the ability to trace and follow:

- a food,
- a feed,
- a food-producing animal or
- a substance intended to be, or expected

to be incorporated into a food or feed,

through all stages of:

- production,
- processing or
- distribution.



Why is traceability needed?

Experience has shown that the **functioning of the internal market** in food or feed can be jeopardised where it is impossible to trace food and feed.

It is therefore necessary to establish a comprehensive system of traceability within the food and feed businesses so that:

- targeted and accurate **withdrawals of food and feed can be undertaken*****
- or information given to consumers***
- or control officials***

thereby avoiding the potential for unnecessary wider disruption in the event of food safety problems.

Why animal identification is needed for food traceability ?

- ❑ *to re-establish **consumer confidence** in beef and beef products through transparency and traceability of bovine food products*
- ❑ *Human health: food can be traced quickly through the food chain and can be quickly **withdrawn from the market** (dioxins, residues...)*
- ❑ ***Fraud Prevention***
- ❑ *From "Birth to slaughter".....but also "From the Farm to the table"...*

Animal identification and food Traceability

- ❑ *The final test of the effectiveness of a traceability system depends very much on **the performance of the database***
- ❑ *A database should ensure a real time bovine-tracking -system*
- ❑ *This **effectiveness** will depend on how often and how quick the database is “fed”*

Animal identification and food labelling

- ❑ *A fundamental requirement for having a labelling system which is credible is that it is based on an effective system of AI & T*
- ❑ *The EU legislation contains provisions for beef labelling*
- ❑ *Any beef which goes on sale in the EU for the consumer must include on the label information on the origin:*
 - ❑ *A reference number that enables to trace-back to the holding of origin (birth)*
 - ❑ *Information regarding the origin of the beef:*
"Animal Born: in Spain; Raised: in France, Slaughtered: in Germany"

► ***What is required from business operators?***

(1) Food and feed business operators shall be able to identify any person from whom they have been supplied with a food, a feed, a food-producing animal, or any substance intended or expected to be incorporated into a food or a feed.

To this end, such operators shall have in place systems which allow for this information to be made available to the competent authorities on demand.

ONE STEP BACK

- *What is required from business operators?*
- (2) Food and feed business operators shall have in place systems and procedures to identify the other businesses to which their products have been supplied.*

This information shall be made available to the competent authorities on demand.

ONE STEP FORWARD

► ***Does this apply to exporters to the EU?***

The EU traceability requirements only apply within the EU (no extra-territorial effect).

They apply from the importer to the retailer (i.e. the importer must be able to identify his supplier (the exporter) in a third country (one step back)).

Thus, the exporter himself, in the third country, is not bound by the traceability requirements. However, he may have traceability obligations, either under specific requirements (i.e. products of animal origin) or because of contractual arrangements (e.g. Eurogap).

► Is internal traceability required?

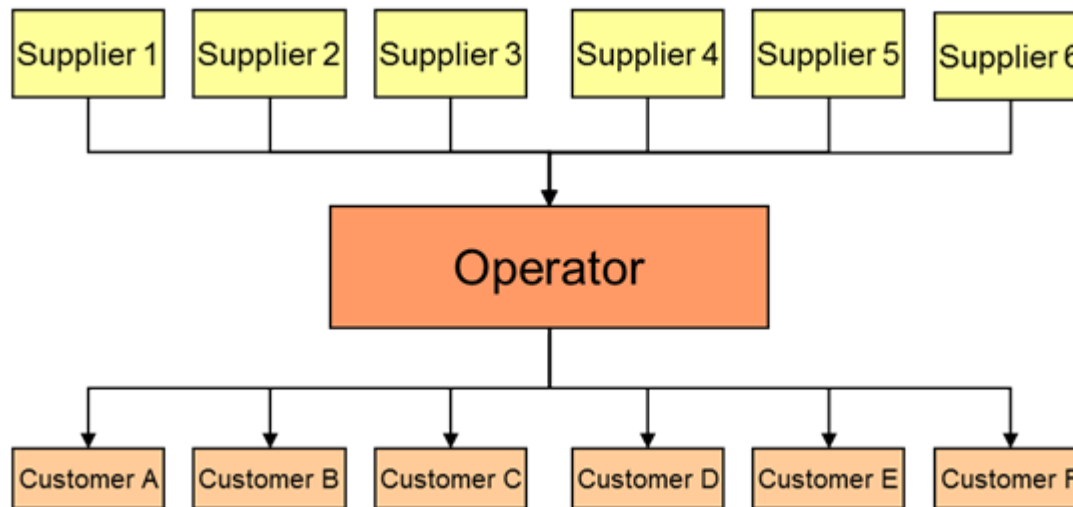
Business operators are **not obliged** to establish a link between incoming and outgoing products.

However, food business operators are **encouraged** to develop systems of internal traceability designed in relation to the nature of their activities (food processing, storage, distribution, etc.).



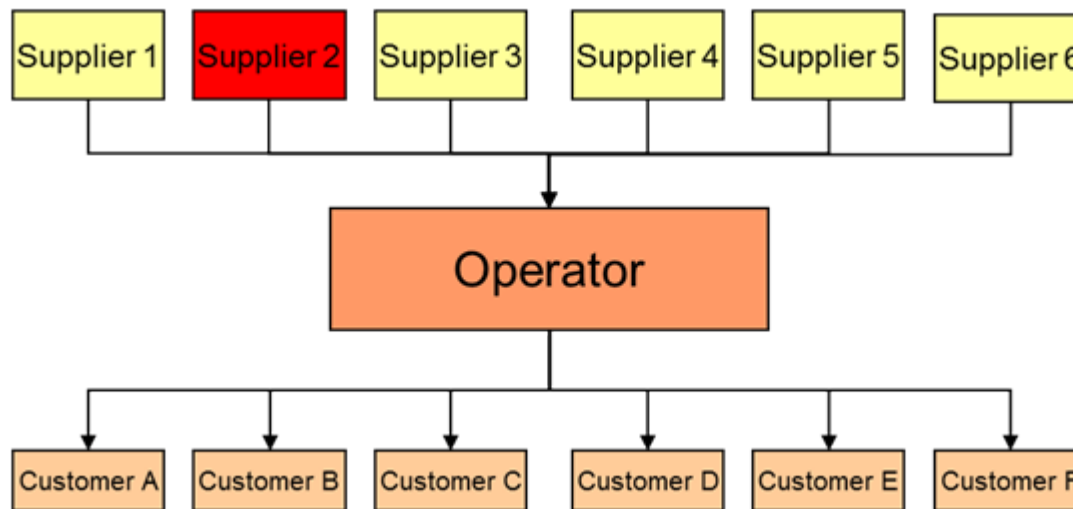
► Is internal traceability required?

Is a business operator obliged to **match inputs** and **outputs**?



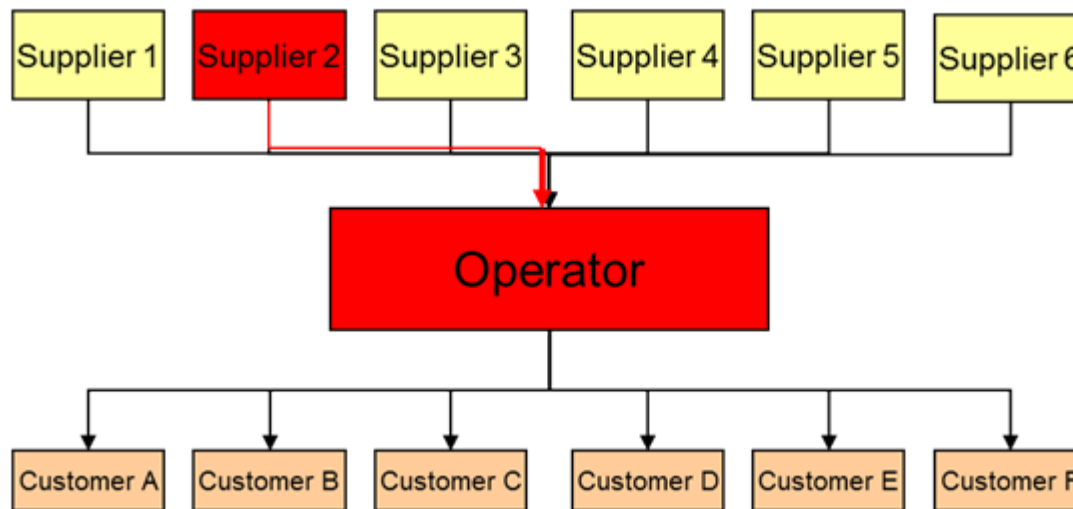
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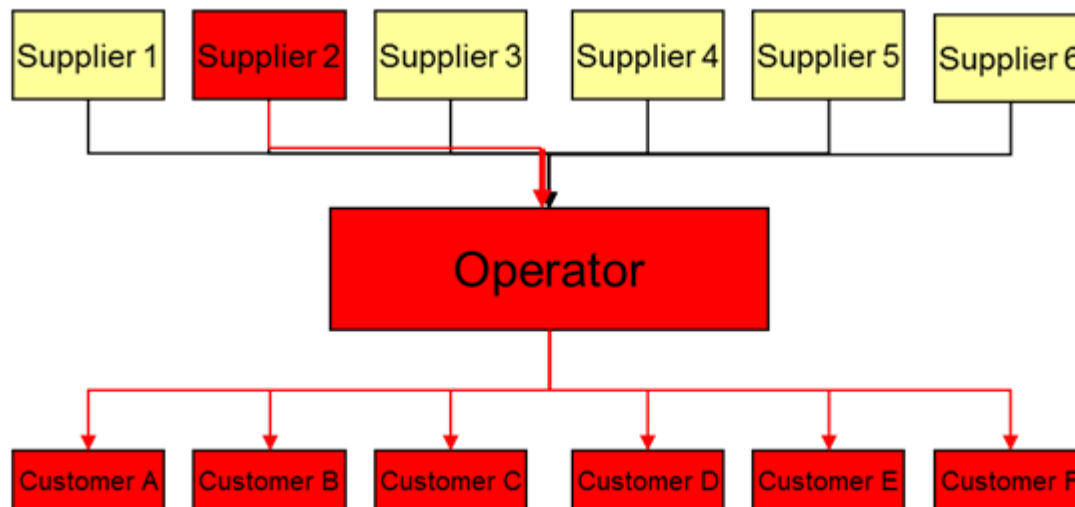
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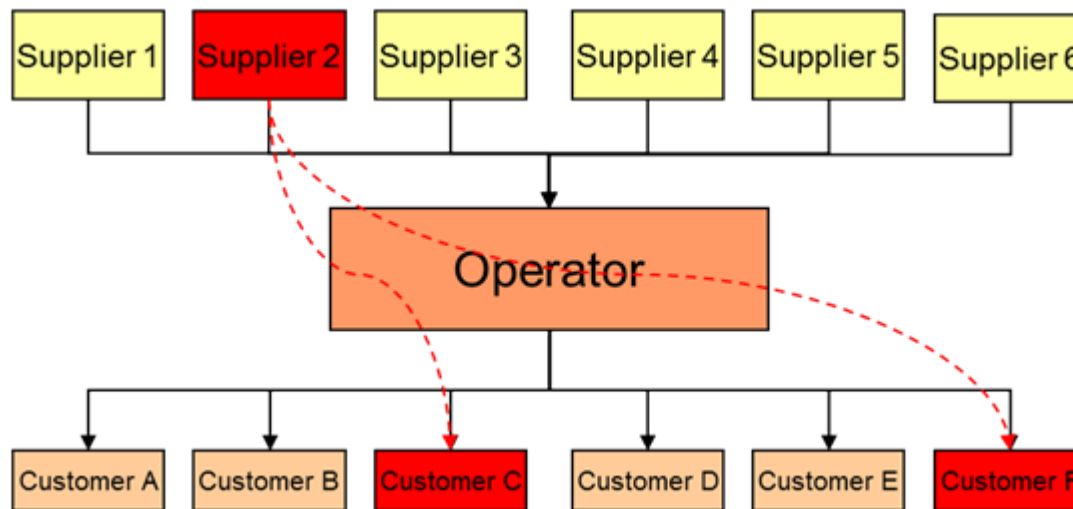
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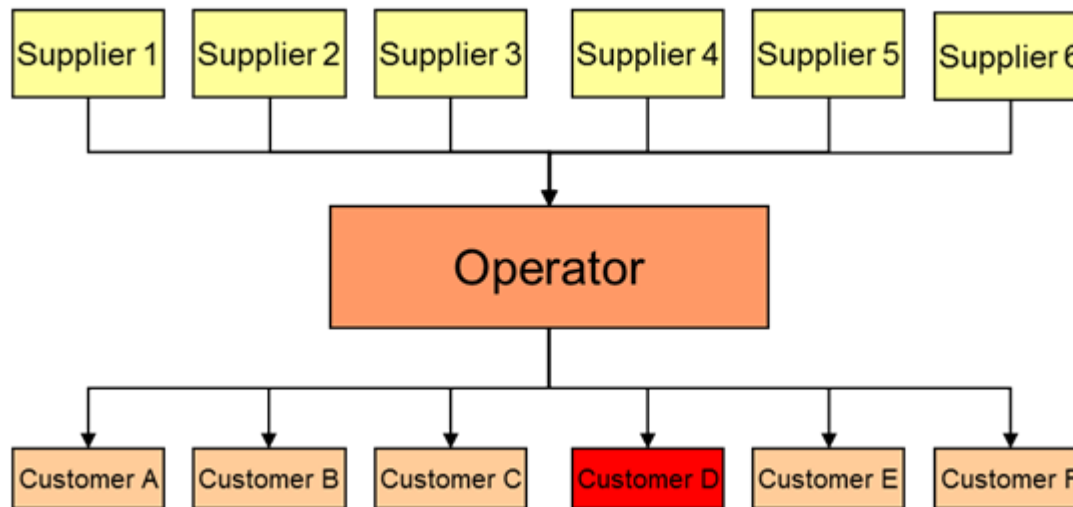
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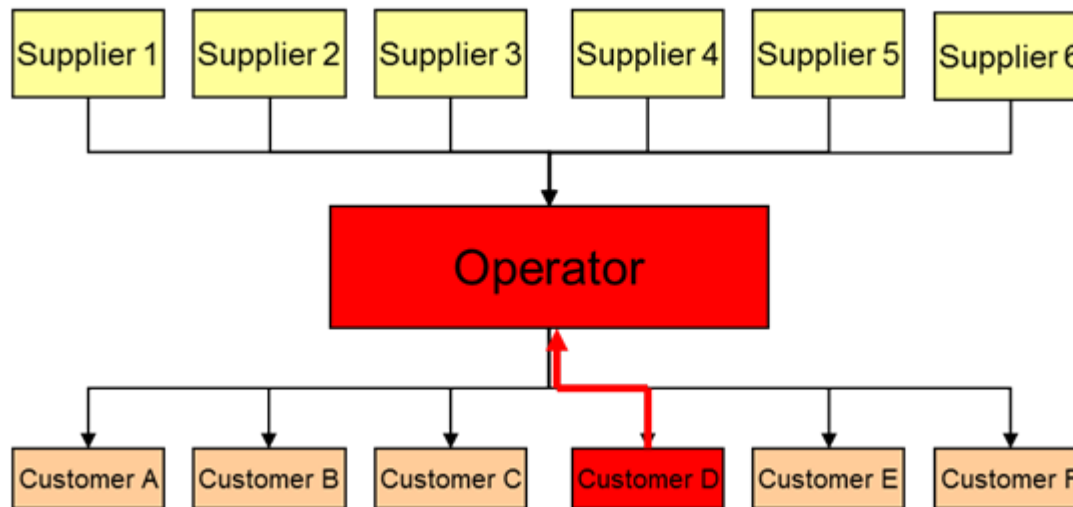
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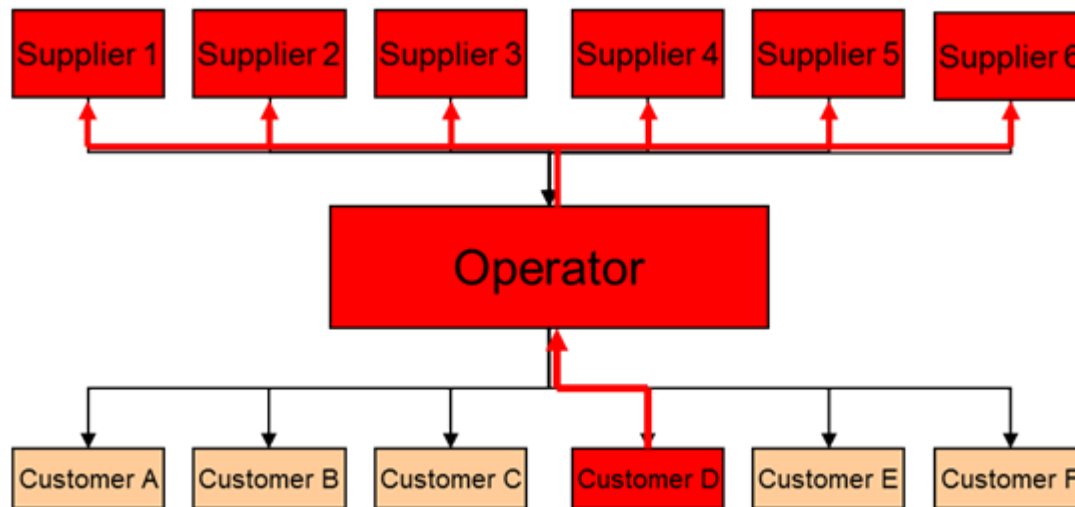
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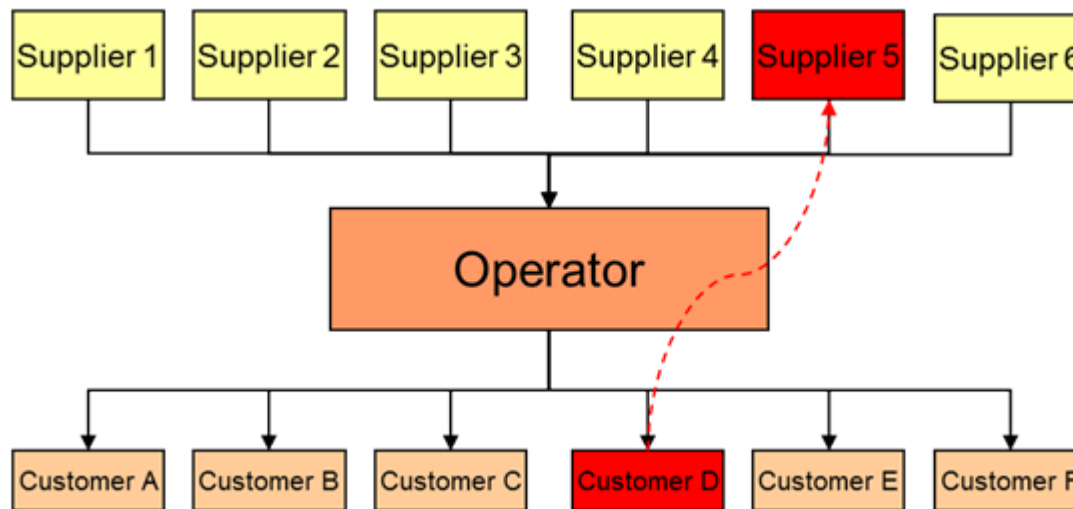
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Is a business operator obliged to **match inputs** and **outputs**?



- ▶ **Pre-packaged food : batch number**
- ▶ **Directive 2011/91/EU** : a food may not be marketed unless it is accompanied with an indication of the lot to which the food belongs

- ▶ **Exemptions :**

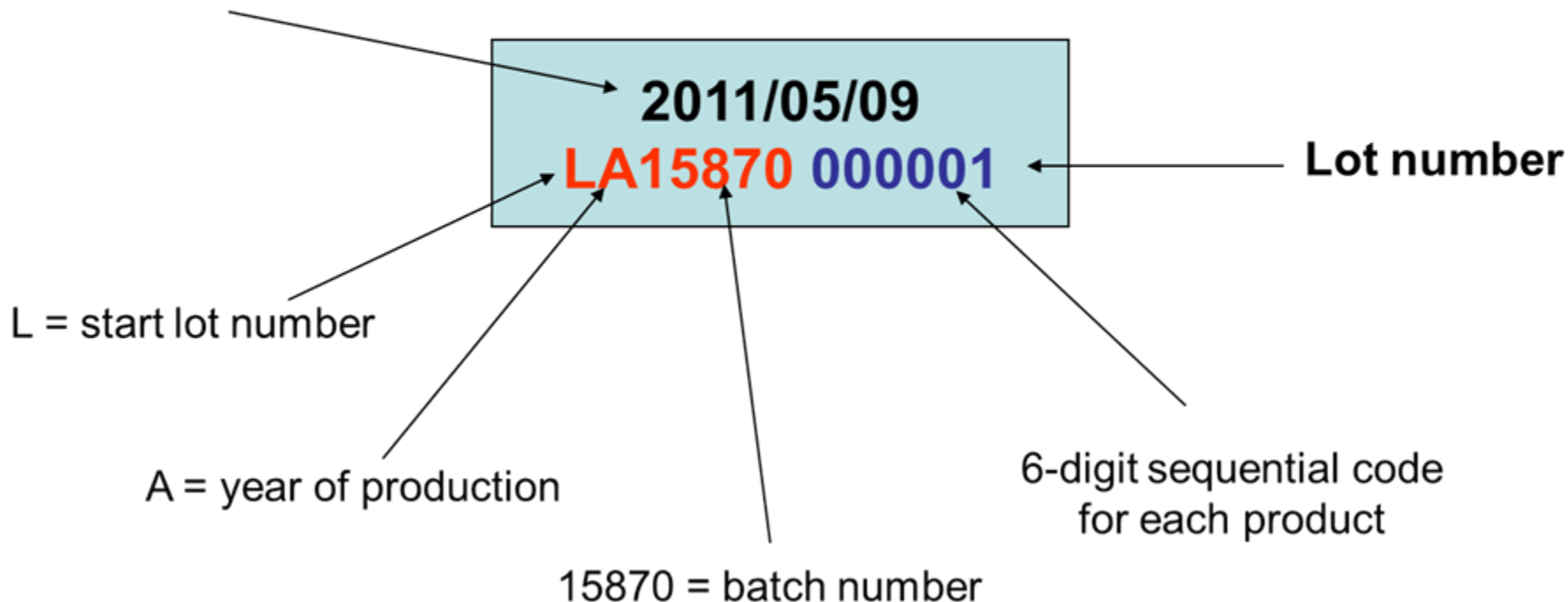
- ▶ Certain agricultural products
- ▶ Food not pre-packaged (packaged to consumer)
- ▶ Packages/containers, largest side less 10 cm²
- ▶ Individual portions of ice cream



► Pre-packaged food : lot number

Date of production

YYYY/MM/DD



► What is required from business operators?

(1) **ONE STEP BACK**

(2) **ONE STEP FORWARD**

(3) **LABELLING / IDENTIFICATION**

Food or feed which is placed on the market in the EU shall be adequately labelled or identified to facilitate its traceability, through relevant documentation or information in accordance with the relevant requirements or more specific provisions.



► What is required from business operators?

(1) **ONE STEP BACK**

(2) **ONE STEP FORWARD**

(3) **LABELLING / IDENTIFICATION**

(4) **SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**
may apply in certain sectors



► How is traceability organised?

Regulation No 178/2002 is non-prescriptive → flexibility.

However, there are specific requirements laid down in vertical legislations:

- Live animals
- Beef meat
- Fish
- Eggs
- Fruits & vegetables



► Live animals:

Producers are obliged to maintain registers indicating:

- feedstuffs used;
- medical treatments (drugs, etc.)
- results of lab test etc.



Bovine:

- have to carry ear tags
- any movement must be recorded



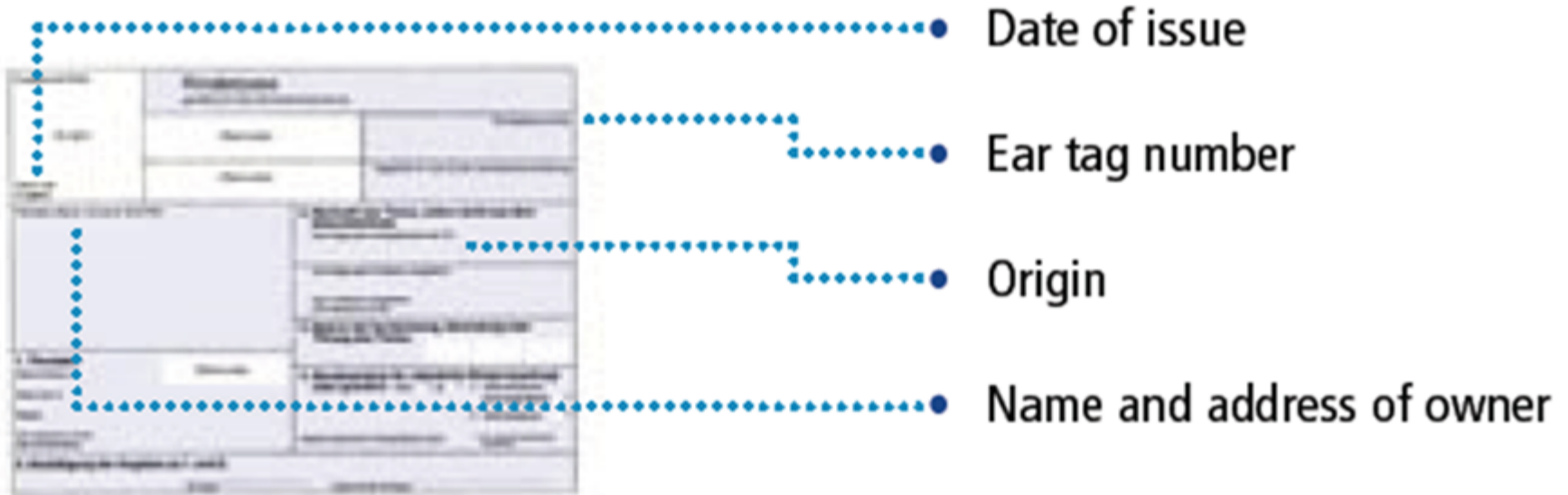
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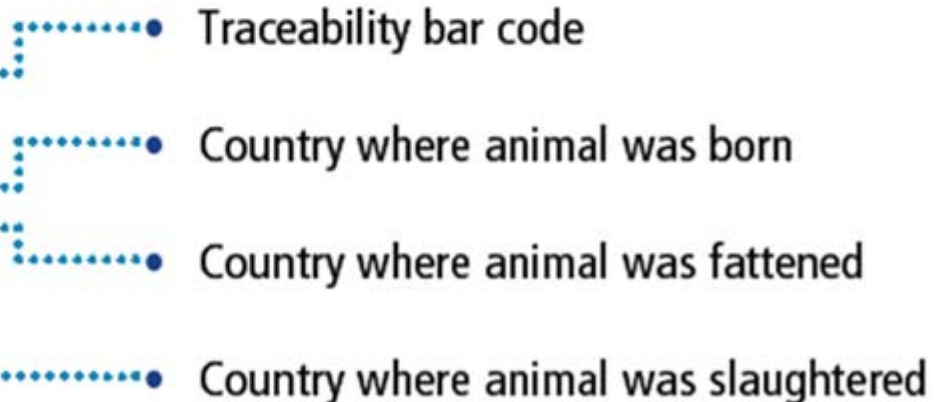
► Live animals:

Bovine have a passport:



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-
- A man wearing a white baseball cap, a light blue long-sleeved shirt, and a dark apron is smiling at the camera. He is standing behind a counter with a white tiled wall in the background. On the counter, there is a large piece of meat, possibly a ham, and a knife. He appears to be a butcher or a food preparer.



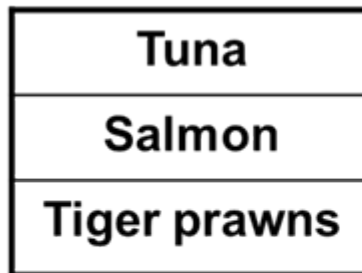
Other type of meat

- ❑ *Traceability rules to ensure the labelling of the place of rearing of meat as laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1337/2013*
- ❑ *From 1 April 2015 the indication of the country of origin is obligatory on the label of fresh, chilled and frozen meat of **swine, sheep, goats and poultry***
- ❑ *animal "reared" and "slaughtered"*

► Fish (when sold to the final consumer)

The labelling must bear:

- the commercial designation of the species



Tuna
Salmon
Tiger prawns



► Fish (when sold to the final consumer)

The labelling must bear:

- the commercial designation of the species
- the production method

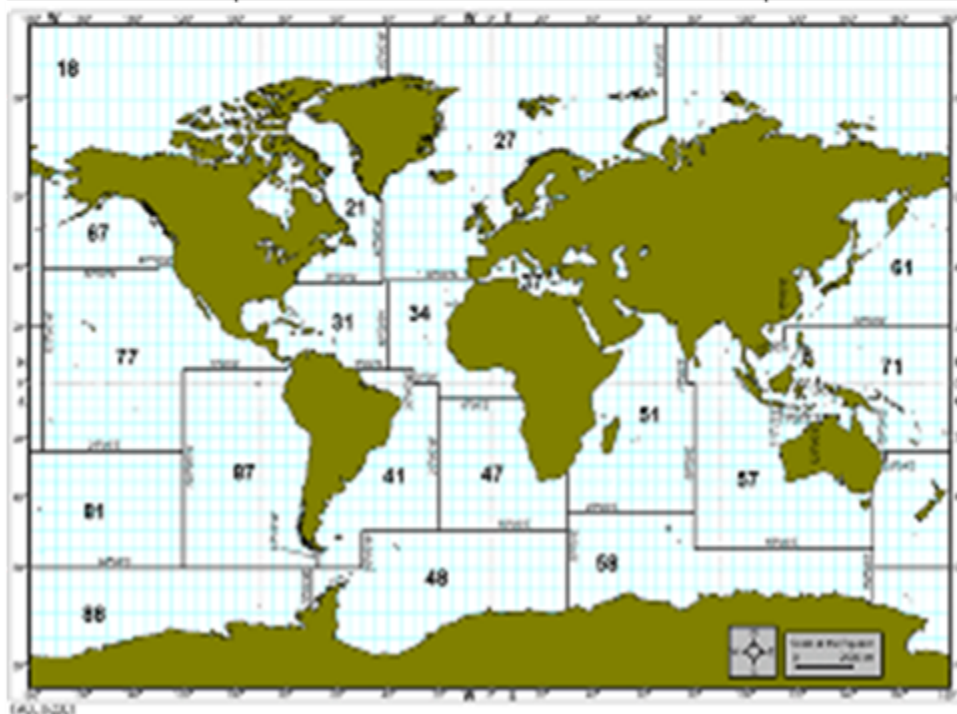
Tuna	caught
Salmon	caught in freshwater
Tiger prawns	farmed (or cultivated)



► Fish (when sold to the final consumer)

The labelling must bear:

- the commercial designation of the species
- the production method
- the catch area



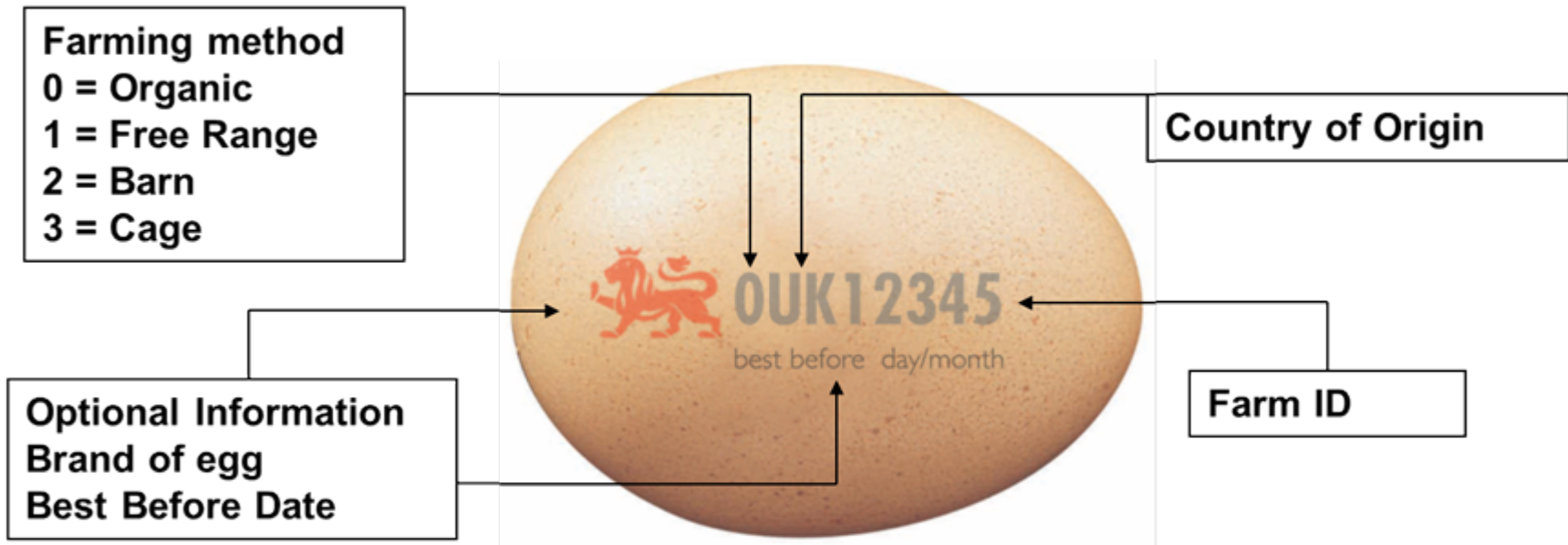
in the Pacific Ocean

in Norway

In Thailand

► Eggs:

- Category A: have to bear a code



- Category B: have to bear a mark

► Fruits and vegetables:

Producers must maintain registers indicating treatments (e.g. pesticides) applied and results of lab tests.



► Fruits and vegetables:

Common marketing standards lay down the specific indications which products must bear, such as:



Origin

Category

Weight

Traceability code

► How long should records be kept?

Shelf life	Time or records keeping
Not specified	5 years

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Shelf life	Time or records keeping
Not specified	5 years
Shelf life > 5 years	Shelf life + 6 months

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Shelf life	Time or records keeping
Not specified	5 years
Shelf life > 5 years	Shelf life + 6 months
« Use by » date < 3 months	6 months after manufacturing



Thank you!