

TO: DLA Troop Support - Subsistence DSCP-FTRE

SUBJECT: ES14-019 (DSCP-SS-14-00495); Follow up to ES13-058 (DSCP-SS-13-01082); Document Change Request to Meal, Ready-to-Eat™ (MRE™) Food Product Documents; to allow for alternate labeling procedures and the limited use of paperboard insert cards

Date received: 23 Jan 2014

Date due: 23 April 2014

Date replied: 24 Jan 2014

1. Reference: Memo from RDNS-CFF to DSCP-FTRE, dated 27 September 2013, SUBJECT: ES13-058 (DSCP-SS-13-01082); Document Change Request to Meal, Ready-to-Eat™ (MRE™) Food Product Documents to Allow for Conversion to Paperboard Sleeves in lieu of Cartons
2. Natick requests further changes to affected food product documents (as described in detail below) to accommodate the Joint Service approved transition from paperboard cartons to paperboard sleeves in the MRE™ and the recent United States Department of Agriculture - Food Safety and Inspection Service (USDA/FSIS) approval of alternate labeling procedures for the retort pouch and paperboard sleeve that will still achieve regulatory compliance.
3. Changes to the affected documents are for MRE 34™ and all future MRE™ procurements. In lieu of making 27 separate documents changes at this time, this memo with summary of changes is recommended to expedite the transition to Defense Logistics Agency – Troop Support in support of their current MRE™ 34 contracts. Due to slight variations in labeling requirements for USDA, FDA, entrée and side items, as well as different initial formatting within the affected documents, the requested changes below are grouped by similar documents with similar changes.
4. Natick requests the following changes to the affected MRE™, USDA inspected entrée documents: PCR-A-005, PCR-B-020A, PCR-B-021A, PCR-B-029A, PCR-B-050, PCR-B-054, PCR-B-057, PCR-C-021A, PCR-C-027A, PCR-C-062, PCR-C-069, PCR-C-077, PCR-M-015, PCR-M-016, PCR-P-045, PCR-P-047, PCR-R-013, PCR-S-002 and PCR-S-018:
 - a. Section D-2, A, (3): After “(3) USDA official inspection legend for the packer’s plant” insert “1”.
 - b. Section D-2, A, (3): After “(3) USDA official inspection legend for the packer’s plant” insert the following new footnote “1/ May be placed on the paperboard sleeve if labeled under USDA/FSIS supervision as an identification service.”

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5. Natick requests the following changes to affected MRE™ food product documents (FDA inspected sides) PCR-B-056, PCR-P-011A, PCR-P-048, PCR-R-001A and PCR-S-019:

a. Section D-2, B, (1), Footnote 1/: After "... on the pouch" insert "or on a separate paperboard insert card".

b. Section D-2, B, (2), Last Sentence: After "(or pouches," insert "or insert cards,".

c. Section E-6, A, (4): After "Examination of sleeve." insert "1".

d. Section E-6, A, (4): At end of paragraph, insert the following new footnote "1/ Or separate paperboard insert card when used in lieu of the paperboard sleeve."

6. Natick requests the following changes to affected MRE™ food product documents (FDA inspected fruits) PCR-A-001B, PCR-C-058 and PCR-F-002C:

a. Section D-2, C, (1): Footnote 1/: After "... on the pouch" insert "or on a separate paperboard insert card".

b. Section D-2, C, (2) Last sentence: After "(or pouches," insert "or insert cards,".

c. Section E-6, A, (3): After "Examination of sleeve." insert "1".

d. Section E-6, A, (3): At end of paragraph, insert the following new footnote "1/ Or separate paperboard insert card when used in lieu of the paperboard sleeve."

7. No further document changes were identified for the following FDA inspected MRE™ entrée product documents: PCR-C-020A, PCR-P-036, PCR-R-012 and PCR-V-010.

8. Natick recommends that DLA-Troop Support use the above summary of document changes for the MRE™ 34 and all future MRE procurements until the documents are formally amended or revised.

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9. POC for this action is DSN 256-5053.