



## Meat notice

<b>Meat notice number:</b>	2023-03		
<b>Meat notice title:</b>	<b>Changes to the appearance of Australia's official marks – bolt seals and tamper-indicative seals</b>		
<b>Category:</b>	Legal requirements incl market access requirements		
NSFS reference	Issue date	Date of effect	Review date
5	July 2023	1 October 2023	UFN
<b>Contact officers</b>		<b>Distribution categories</b>	
officialmarks.exportmeat@agriculture.gov.au		X	Central and regional office
		X	Departmental on-plant officer(s)
Michelle Brotohusodo Director 02 6272 4341 michelle.brotohusodo@aff.gov.au		X	Managers, export meat establishments
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	State/Territory regulatory authorities
		X	Approved Islamic organisations
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: Please specify category

### 1. Purpose

This notice provides notification of a change in the appearance of official marks – bolt seals and tamper-indicative metal strap seals - and advice regarding the implementation date for the new seals.

### 2. Scope

This notice applies to all export registered establishments.

### 3. Definitions

The following table defines terms used in this notice.

Term	Definition
Official mark – tamper-indicative metal strap seal	<p>As defined in the Export Control Rules 2021. For example, in the <i>Export Control (Meat and Meat Products) 2021</i>, Part 3:</p> <p><b>8-14 Official mark—tamper-indicative metal strap seal</b></p> <p>A seal that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) is a tamper-indicative metal strap seal that can be secured in a loop by inserting one end of the seal into or through a protected locking mechanism on the other end; and</li><li>(b) complies with ISO 17712:2013 <i>Freight containers—Mechanical seals</i>, published by the International Organization for Standardization, as that document exists at the commencement of this instrument; and</li><li>(c) bears the words “Australian Government”; and</li><li>(d) bears a unique number, or a unique combination of letters and numbers, provided to the manufacturer of the seal by the Department;</li></ul> <p>is an official mark for the purposes of the Act.</p>
Official mark – bolt seal	<p>As defined in the Export Control Rules 2021. For example, in the <i>Export Control (Meat and Meat Products) 2021</i>, Part 3:</p> <p><b>8-15 Official mark—bolt seal</b></p> <p>A seal that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) is a high security bolt seal; and</li><li>(b) complies with ISO 17712:2013 <i>Freight containers—Mechanical seals</i>, published by the International Organization for Standardization, as that document exists at the commencement of this instrument; and</li><li>(c) bears the words “Australian Government”; and</li><li>(d) bears a unique number, or a unique combination of letters and numbers, provided to the manufacturer of the seal by the Department; and</li><li>(e) is coated with green or blue plastic;</li></ul> <p>is an official mark for the purposes of the Act.</p>

#### 4. Summary of changes

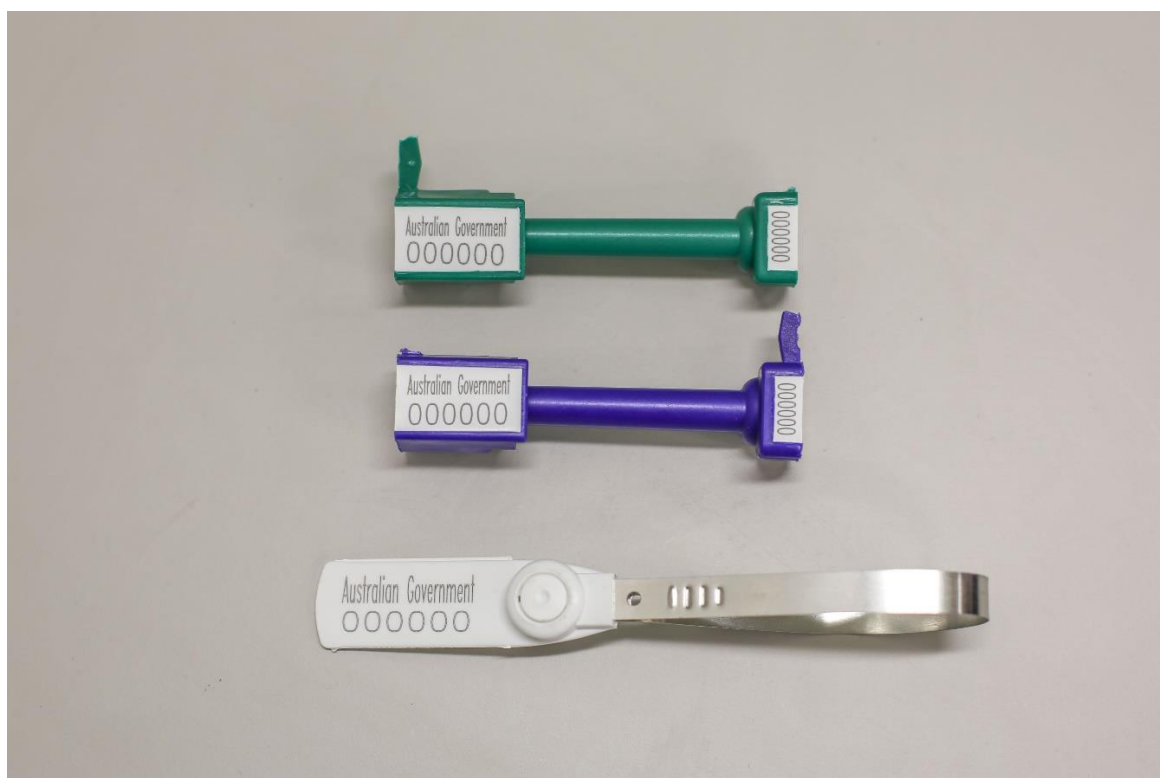
Following a recent tender process, a change in appearance of official marks bolt seals and tamper-indicative metal strap seals will occur.

The implementation date for these changes is **1 October 2023**.

The existing bolt seals and tamper-indicative metal strap seals must cease being applied on **30 September 2023**.

The department will be notifying trading partners of the upcoming changes, including the appearance of the seals to facilitate a smooth transition and prevent any disruptions to trade.

Further information regarding the ordering of new seals and correct destruction procedure of current seals will be provided in the coming months.





## 5. Requirements

Establishments are advised to ensure adequate stock levels of current bolts and seals to see through exports until 30 September 2023.

Please email [VEMGPlanning&Coord@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:VEMGPlanning&Coord@agriculture.gov.au) should stock levels be inadequate to meet this timeframe.

Michelle Brotohusodo  
Director  
Export Meat Program  
July 2023