

# Is Your Export Business Ready for Halal Certification?

## PRE-CERTIFICATION READINESS CHECKLIST — EXPORTERS

### HOW TO USE THIS CHECKLIST

Work through each section. Unticked items are gaps to resolve before your NHASA audit — or before approaching overseas buyers.

### 1 PRODUCT & INGREDIENT COMPLIANCE

*No halal certificate is issued without full ingredient sign-off*

- CRITICAL** All ingredients, additives, and processing aids in every export product are from halal-permissible sources.
- CRITICAL** Supplier halal certificates are held on file for every ingredient — and are currently valid.  
*Expired supplier certs invalidate your own halal status at point of audit.*
- CRITICAL** No alcohol-based ingredients, porcine derivatives, or blood products are used in any exported line.
- WATCH OUT** Animal-derived ingredients (gelatine, enzymes, emulsifiers) are verified as halal-slaughtered or plant-derived.  
*E471, E472, rennet — all require documented halal source confirmation.*
- WATCH OUT** 'Natural flavours' and 'natural colours' have documented halal-compliant source verification.
- A complete ingredient register is maintained and updated whenever formulations or suppliers change.

### 2 PRODUCTION FACILITY & CONTAMINATION CONTROLS

*Overseas import authorities inspect facility records*

- MARKET REQ** Halal products are produced on dedicated lines or after validated, documented clean-down procedures.  
*Import authorities in Malaysia and the UAE require documented segregation evidence.*
- Storage facilities physically separate halal export products from non-halal goods.
- Equipment cleaning and sanitation logs are current and available for auditor review.
- WATCH OUT** Pest control and cleaning agents used on-site contain no haram substances.
- Water used in production is potable and sourced free of contamination.

### YOUR EXPORT READINESS SCORE

- 90 - 100% ticked** Export-ready. Contact NHASA to lodge your application and enter global markets.
- 70 - 89% ticked** Nearly there. Address flagged items then book a pre-audit consultation with NHASA.
- Below 70% ticked** Significant preparation required. Our team will guide you through every step.

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## PRE-CERTIFICATION READINESS CHECKLIST — EXPORTERS

### 3 EXPORT DOCUMENTATION & TRACEABILITY

Customs and import authorities require full paper trails

- CRITICAL** Your halal certificate is issued by a recognised Australian halal certification body (e.g. NHASA).

Self-declared halal is not accepted by any Muslim-majority import market.

- MARKET REQ** Each exported batch is traceable to specific ingredient lots and their halal certificates.

Malaysia JAKIM and UAE ESMA require batch-level traceability documentation.

- A Halal Management System (HMS) or documented halal SOPs are in place and auditable.

- MARKET REQ** Halal certificate numbers are referenced on commercial invoices and packing lists where required.

GCC and Saudi customs increasingly require certificate reference on shipping documents.

- CRITICAL** Certificate renewal dates are tracked — you have a system to ensure certs never lapse.

A lapsed certificate during an active export contract can trigger shipment rejection.

- Records of all internal halal audits and corrective actions are retained for a minimum of 3 years.

### 4 PACKAGING, LABELLING & EXPORT LOGISTICS

Halal integrity must be maintained to the end consumer

- WATCH OUT** Packaging materials including inks, adhesives, and coatings are confirmed halal-compliant.

Shellac (E904) and some solvent-based inks are not halal — check with your packaging supplier.

- CRITICAL** Halal logo usage on export packaging complies with the licence terms of your certifying body.

Unauthorised halal logo use can result in certificate withdrawal and legal liability.

- Transportation methods prevent contact between halal export products and non-halal goods.

Shared refrigerated transport requires documented segregation or dedicated vehicles.

- Cold chain and storage procedures maintain product integrity and prevent contamination in transit.

- MARKET REQ** Labelling meets the language and regulatory requirements of each target export market.

Arabic labelling is required in GCC markets. Bahasa Malaysia for Malaysia.

### 5 MARKET-SPECIFIC IMPORT REQUIREMENTS

Requirements differ by country — know your market before you ship

- MARKET REQ** Malaysia (JAKIM): Your certifying body is listed on JAKIM's approved foreign halal body register.

Products from non-listed bodies are rejected at Malaysian customs regardless of certificate quality.

- MARKET REQ** UAE / GCC (ESMA GSO 2055): Certification is aligned with Emirates halal standard requirements.

- MARKET REQ** Saudi Arabia: Halal certificate is endorsed by the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) requirements.

- MARKET REQ** Indonesia (BPJPH): Indonesian halal import requirements and MUI recognition have been reviewed.

Indonesia transitioned to mandatory halal certification for imported food products.