



# **National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC)**

## **Chemical Evaluation & Research (CER) Directorate**

### **GUIDELINES FOR OBTAINING PERMIT TO IMPORT INDUSTRIAL AND LABORATORY CHEMICALS (NEW APPLICANTS)**

## 1. General

- 1.1. These Guidelines are for the general public and in particular persons intending to obtain Permit to Import Industrial and Laboratory Chemicals.
- 1.2. These Guidelines prescribe the requirements for documentation, processing, personnel and timeline for obtaining Permit to Import Laboratory and Industrial Chemicals.
- 1.3. All documents are to be scanned and uploaded as attachments. Scanned document file-size limit is 2 MB. There is no overall limit for the total size of all attachments. The file-size of an attachment can be reduced by scanning it in black and white instead of grayscale and with a scanning resolution of 300dpi max.

### Step 1

## 2. Application

- 2.1. All applications for Chemical Import Permits are to be submitted and processed online at Single Trade Window Portal ([www.trade.gov.ng/nafdac](http://www.trade.gov.ng/nafdac)).
- 2.2. The following documents are to be uploaded in the website indicated above;
  - 2.2.1. Application letter on company's letter head paper addressed to the director-General (NAFDAC), ATTENTION: Director, Chemical Evaluation & Research (CER), ISOLO stating the chemicals, the quantities required (in SI units) and uses for which the chemicals are intended. The Application must be signed by Managing Director/CEO or the Technical Officer of the company.
  - 2.2.2. Evidence of Business Incorporation.
  - 2.2.3. Evidence of certified true copy of Memorandum and Articles of Association.
  - 2.2.4. Evidence of Particulars of Directors (Form CO7).
  - 2.2.5. Passport photograph of technical officer.
  - 2.2.6. Appointment and acceptance letters of the technical officer including all credentials (Degree, NYSC certificates, etc.) and evidence of relevant experience.
  - 2.2.7. Valid Listing Certificate as a Chemical Marketer (where applicable)
  - 2.2.8. Companies manufacturing NAFDAC regulated products must submit evidence of registration of all their products with the Agency or evidence of commencement of registration (if new manufacturer).
  - 2.2.9. Local Purchase Order (LPO) from intending end user to the applicant (marketer). See list of Chemicals that require LPO.
  - 2.2.10. Companies importing consumable chemical products that do not undergo further processing (e.g. brake fluid, car care products, paints, sealant etc.) shall submit Certificate of Manufacture and Free Sale issued by the regulatory authority in the country of origin.
  - 2.2.11. A list in tabular form containing names of chemicals with compositions in bracket, Commodity Codes/Harmonized System (HS) Codes, and quantities requested (to

be filled online).

2.2.12. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for each chemical from the overseas manufacturer should contain the following information:

- 2.2.12.1. Identity of product and the company
- 2.2.12.2. Composition and information on ingredients
- 2.2.12.3. Hazardous identification
- 2.2.12.4. First aid measures
- 2.2.12.5. Firefighting measures
- 2.2.12.6. Accidental release measures
- 2.2.12.7. Handling and storage
- 2.2.12.8. Exposure control/ personal protection measures
- 2.2.12.9. Physical and chemical properties
- 2.2.12.10. Stability and reactivity
- 2.2.12.11. Toxicological information
- 2.2.12.12. Ecological information
- 2.2.12.13. Disposal consideration
- 2.2.12.14. Transport Information
- 2.2.12.15. Regulatory information
- 2.2.12.16. Other Information

2.2.13. It is to be emphasized that specific chemical names of the items required must be given and it must be same as stated on the MSDS. General name or physical description of the chemicals, e.g. foaming agent, low density chemicals, industrial gases, water softeners, etc. will not be accepted.

2.2.14. Companies applying for chemicals that require approval from other government regulatory authorities should attach such letter of approval. E.g. chemicals used for explosives from Ministry of Mines and Steel Development etc.

## **Step II**

### **3. Processing of Permit**

- 3.1. Upon successful submission of application on the website, an auto generated response is sent to the company's registered email.
- 3.2. Companies can also view the progress of their application on the support information tab on applicant's portal.
- 3.3. Upon satisfactory vetting of the application, a pay advice via company's registered email is sent to the company.
- 3.4. A print-out of the pay advice, bank teller and Remita invoice shall be presented at NAFDAC accounts department for issuance of NAFDAC receipt. The Agency then processes the Permit.

### Step III

#### 4. Issuance of Permit

- 4.1. Once the Permit is approved, the applicant is notified via email. The applicant may log-on to the Single Trade Window Portal to download and print the Permit.

#### 5. Tariff

- 5.1. Please see the tariff section

#### 6. Note

- 6.1. The company representative responsible for interfacing with the Agency should be a technical officer with scientific background (minimum of Ordinary National Diploma (OND) or its equivalent is required). The technical officer will be responsible for explaining and discussing the exact chemical nature and use of the items for which application is submitted. He is also responsible for the handling and storage of the chemicals.
- 6.2. A processing period (Timeline) of fifteen (15) work days should be allowed from the time of submission of a complete application. Note that the timeline for processing is suspended when there is a compliance directive and resumes when applicant complies and communicate compliance to the Agency.
- 6.3. It is an offence for any company to import chemicals without a Chemical Import Permit.
- 6.4. The Permit granted is an authorization for the applicant to import and should therefore be obtained before order is placed or shipped.
- 6.5. In order to obtain a Chemical Import Permit, applicants are required to have a storage facility duly approved by the Agency (Please refer to Requirements for Warehouse Inspection Ref. No : CER-GDL-0001-00 )
- 6.6. All documents must be in English language.

All correspondence should be addressed to:-

The Director-General (NAFDAC)

**Attn:** The Director,

Chemical Evaluation and Research Directorate,

1<sup>st</sup> Floor, NAFDAC Office Complex,

Apapa-Oshodi Expressway,

Isolo, Lagos.

NAFDAC website: [www.nafdac.gov.ng](http://www.nafdac.gov.ng)

E-mail: [cer@nafdac.gov.ng](mailto:cer@nafdac.gov.ng)

Telephone no.: +234-1-4609762

**All submissions should be made at the Office of the Director, CER, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, NAFDAC Office Complex, Isolo Industrial Estate, Oshodi-Apapa Express Way Isolo, Lagos or the nearest NAFDAC Office (for those outside Lagos).**