

Photo: The Norwegian Seafood Federation

Traceability of seafood products - Labelling of fish units and pallets (EN 17099)

Key players in the seafood industry have concluded that logistics and operating costs currently represent up to 15 % of the sales value of seafood. The use of standardized labelling and traceability systems can reduce operating costs and the time and resources required to fulfill legal obligations, reduce operating costs, and simultaneously meet increasing demands from customers and consumers, including sustainability requirements.

EN 17099 Information technology — Fisheries and aquaculture products — Requirements for labelling of distribution units and pallets in the trade of fisheries and aquaculture products, is a European standard developed under Norwegian leadership. The standard is based on the national Norwegian standard NS 9405 Requirements for labelling of distribution units and pallets in the sale of fish and fish products and

replaces it. Norwegian expertise and stakeholders have been heavily involved in the development of EN 17099.

Increased efficiency, better traceability, and sustainable development The standard specifies the minimum requirements for labelling distribution units and pallets in the trade of fisheries and aquaculture products in Europe. By following these requirements,



information about the capture date, packing date, origin, and other information about the fish can be read by everyone in the entire value chain. This facilitates higher delivery quality, increased efficiency, better traceability, improved food safety, and compliance with national and EU regulations. In short, the standard will help the industry meet the ever-increasing demands from customers and consumers for increased traceability and sustainable development. Better traceability will also make it more difficult to trade in illegal, unreported, and unregulated fisheries and aquaculture products.

Using the standard will assist the fisheries and aquaculture industry in ensuring a faster, more efficient, and cost-effective supply chain for fresh and frozen fisheries and aquaculture products from capture and harvest to the consumer.

Even if this is a European Standard, the content may be of interest to all countries along the Mediterranean Sea.

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