



October 21, 2016

To Carriers:

The FDA rule, "Sanitary Transportation of Human and Animal Food" codifies the requirements in 21 CFR §§ 1.900 through 1.034 for sanitary transportation practices to ensure the safety of the food being transported. Elements within that rule require Simmons Pet Food Inc. as the "Shipper" to specify to the "Carrier" the necessary sanitary specifications for the carrier's vehicle to achieve this purpose including any design specifications and cleaning procedures. A one-time notification is considered sufficient unless changes to the specifications or procedures are warranted based upon the type of animal food being transported (21 CFR § 1.908(b)). This letter is a record subject to the records retention requirement of this rule and a copy will be kept by Simmons Pet Food Inc. to satisfy these requirements (21 CFR § 1.912(a)). Although the compliance date for this FDA rule is April 6, 2017, it became effective on June 6, 2016. Simmons Pet Food Inc. manufactures and ships ingredients intended for use in and as pet food. Simmons Pet Food Inc. contracts "carriers" to transport these ingredients to pet food manufacturers and subsequently to customer distribution locations for finished pet food products. The carrier's vehicles and equipment are expected to meet the following specifications upon arrival at all Simmons Pet Food Inc. facilities for loading:

- 1) Dry and refrigerated vans need to be clean, dry, odor free and no holes. Refrigerated loads inbound to Simmons Pet Food Inc. need to maintain temperature for the time our raw ingredient is on the trailer, during transport, and maintained until the material is off loaded by the Simmons Pet Food Inc. Employee.
- 2) Other transport vessels should be designed and constructed of materials that permit complete inspection and cleaning. Because "live-bottom" or "walking-floor" trailers are difficult to inspect, clean, and verify cleanliness, they will not be permitted for loading animal food ingredients or finished pet food products.
- 3) The transport vessel should arrive dry, empty and free of pest infestation, rodent/bird droppings, debris, dirt and prior cargo contents. Tarps (if applicable) should be in good repair, tight-fitting, and free of holes and tears. Simmons Pet Food Inc. facilities will require a wash receipt for bulk load transports to certain locations so please confirm with the Simmons Pet Food facility prior to arrival.
- 4) Provide Simmons Pet Food Inc. with a copy of the BOL for the immediate previous cargo.
- 5) Vessels previously loaded with fertilizer must be cleaned prior to loading. If the fertilizer was impregnated with herbicides or pesticides, the vessel will be rejected. Simmons Pet Food Inc. facilities engaged in the manufacture of pet food and/or ingredients will not load vessels whose previous cargo was fertilizer.
- 6) Transport vessels whose prior cargo contained raw materials intended for rendering will not be permitted to load finished animal and pet food ingredients / finished pet food products.
- 7) Transport vessels whose immediate previous cargo contained substances found on the FOSFA, 01- 01-2008 list of banned immediate previous cargoes will not be loaded.

Please contact the Director of Food Safety at Simmons Pet Food Inc. if you have any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Dr. Billie L. Johnson
Billie.johnson@simfoods.com
620-342-1323 ext. 230

Date Received: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Company: _____