

National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS)



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SCOPE

- Mandate
- Process Flow
- Regulatory Framework
- Compulsory Specifications
- Food Safety Inspections – Domestic and Imports
- Flow Process for Locally Produced Products Regulated by NRCS
- Flow Process for Imported Products
- Existing Compulsory Specifications within the Foods Department

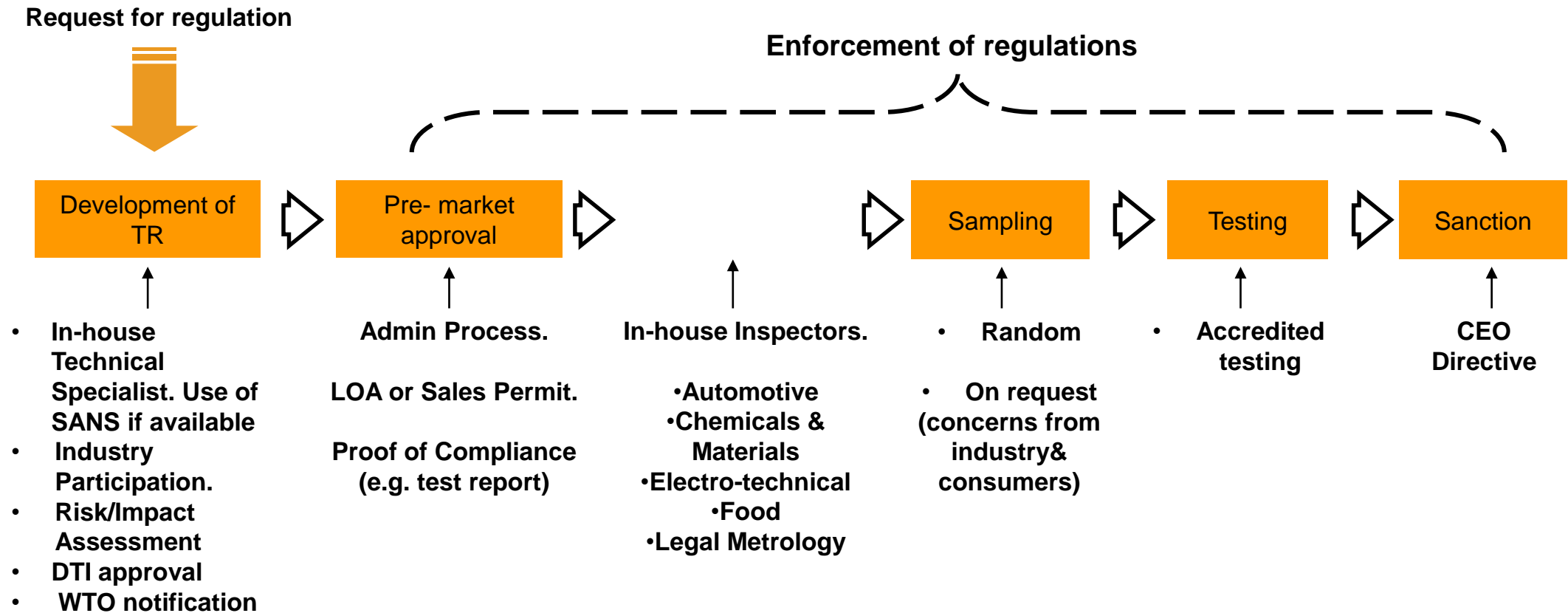
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MANDATE

- South African system is a Multiple agency food control system
- DoH, DAFF & NRCS (previously SABS regulatory division, an agency under the DTI regulating processed fishery products and canned meat)
- NRCS acts on behalf of the Minister of Trade & Industry under The National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act (Act 5 of 2008)
- Foodstuffs, Cosmetics & Disinfectants Act, (Act 54 of 1972) – NRCS-FAI inspectors are also appointed in terms of this Act
- Section 13 (1) Compulsory Specifications (VC) and 13(5) Ministers' consultation

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Process Flow



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NRCS ACT 2008 – REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

- NRCS administers REGULATIONS = Compulsory specifications (VCs) = in the interest of public safety and health or for environmental protection
- Applicable to products that are IMPORTED, MANUFACTURED, SOLD and/or EXPORTED - must comply with mandatory requirements if within scope of VC

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NRCS ACT OF 2008 – REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Compulsory Specifications mandate:

13. (1) The Minister may, in respect of any commodity, product or service which may affect public safety, health or the environment, by notice in the Gazette

(a) declare a SANS or a provision of a SANS to be a compulsory specification...”

(b) declare an amended SANS or an amended provision of a SANS to be a compulsory specification if the original declaration was made in terms of subsection (1)(a).

(c) declare or amend a compulsory specification if a SANS or a provision of a SANS is not available in terms of paragraphs (a) and (b);

(d) withdraw a compulsory specification.

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COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS

The compulsory specifications addresses the following requirements:

- Requirements for the factory
 - **Factory construction, layout and conditions**
- Equipment for production
- Requirements for employees engaged in the handling, preparing, processing & storage of the product
- Hygienic operating requirements
- Records (processing & quality records)
- Product specific requirements (Raw material, final product)

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COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS

- Microbiological requirements
- Chemical requirements
- Labelling (marking) requirements
- Methods of physical examination
- Methods of microbiological examination
- Methods of chemical analysis

(FARM TO FORK PRINCIPLE)

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FOOD SAFETY INSPECTIONS – DOMESTIC AND IMPORTS

- All processing facilities must comply with the requirements of the relevant compulsory specifications before they can process products.
- Upon determining compliance factories are registered and issued with a processing certificate valid for one year period.
- Bi-annual inspections are conducted to determine continuous compliance to requirements.

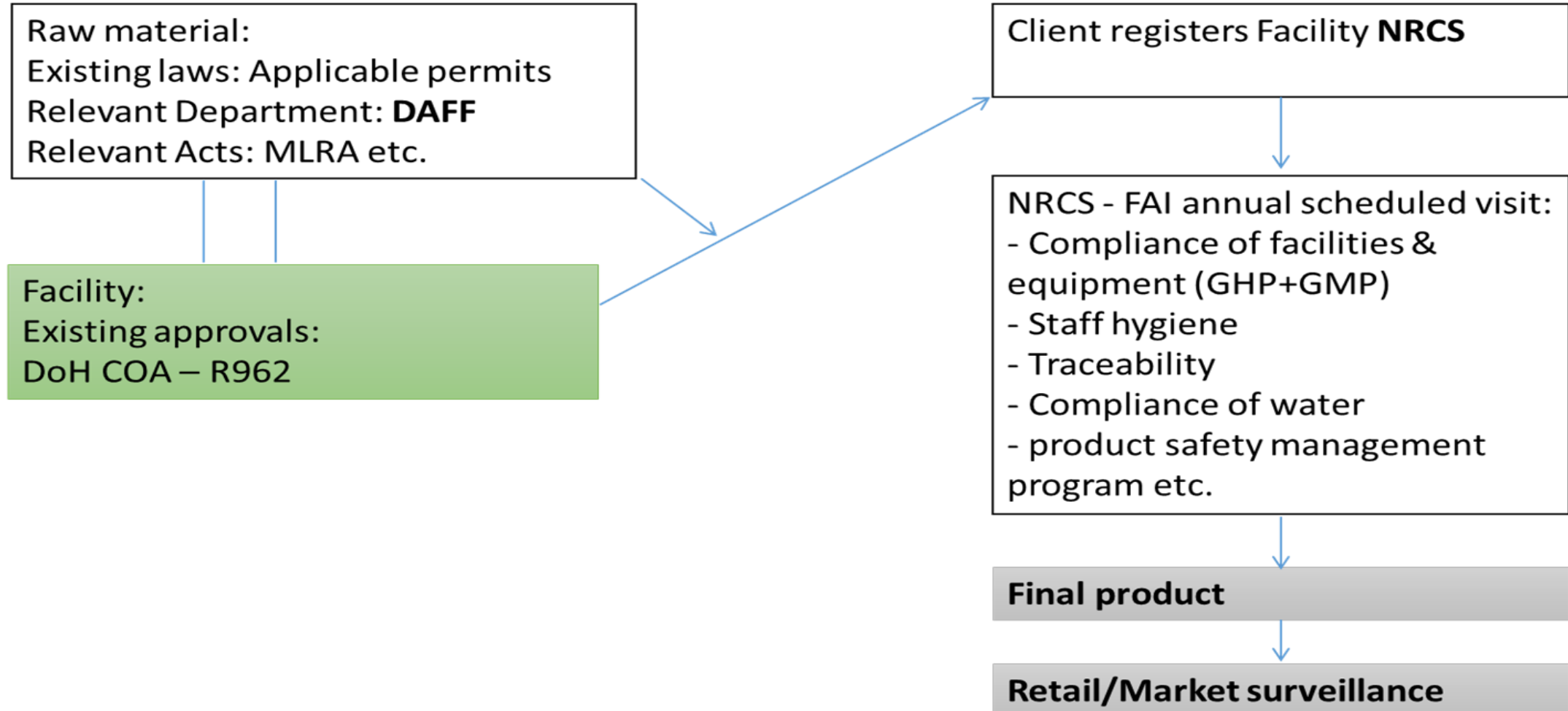
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FOOD SAFETY INSPECTIONS – DOMESTIC AND IMPORTS

- All local produced, imported and exported productions/consignments are inspected and released by means of compliance certificates or health guarantees (except local frozen fish – monitoring action).
- Products both domestic and imported may not be distributed or sold prior to receipt of compliance certificates.
- Sanctioning procedures are implemented for non-compliant products.

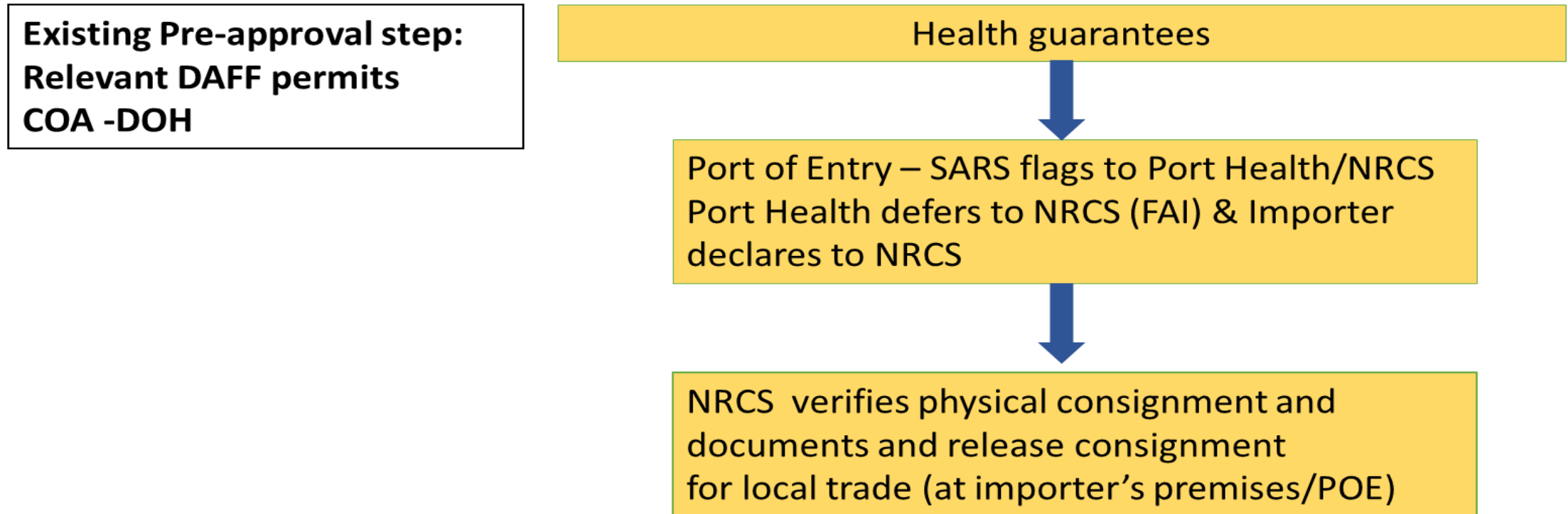
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FLOW PROCESS FOR **LOCALLY PRODUCED PRODUCTS REGULATED BY NRCS**



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FLOW PROCESS FOR **IMPORTED PRODUCTS**



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EXISTING COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS WITHIN THE FOODS DEPARTMENT

- Compulsory Specification for Frozen Fish, Frozen Marine Molluscs and Frozen products Derived there from –VC8017.
- The Manufacture, Production, Processing and Treatment of Canned Fish, Canned Marine Molluscs and Canned Crustaceans –VC 8014.
- The Manufacture, Production, Processing and Treatment of Canned Meat Products – VC 8019.
- Compulsory Specification for Frozen Rock Lobster Products Derived there from – VC 8020.
- Compulsory Specification for Frozen Shrimps (Prawns), Langoustines and Crabs – VC 8031.

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EXISTING COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS WITHIN THE FOODS DEPARTMENT

- Compulsory Specification for Smoked Snoek (In the process of amending the VC to include all smoked fishery products). VC 8021
- Compulsory Specification for Live Aquaculture Abalone – VC 9001
- Compulsory Specification for Live Lobster VC 9104.

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Questions & Answers