



# Guidance Document for Vehicles, Machinery and Mobile Homes

**Short Name: GUIDE-VEHICLE-ALL**

Importers are strongly advised to familiarise themselves with this guidance document and the associated Import Health Standard and to seek DoA guidance if they are unclear on any part, prior to undertaking any activities relating to the importation of vehicles, machinery or mobile homes.

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Stanley  
Falkland Islands



## Foreword

The Falkland Islands Government Department of Agriculture (DoA), is the lead agency in the Falkland Islands biosecurity system. It is responsible for preventing the importation of unwanted pests and diseases, and shares responsibility with the Environmental Planning Department for controlling, managing or eradicating them should they arrive.

This guidance document has been issued to accompany the DoA Standard, *Import Health Standard for Vehicles, Machinery and Mobile Homes - VEHICLE.ALL* (the “standard”). **It is not a legally binding document** and, although it can be read independently of the standard, it should be read in conjunction with it to ensure that all matters relating to meeting the requirements of the standard are fully understood.

## Review & Amendment

This guidance document is subject to review and amendment at any time to ensure that it continues to meet its purpose. Reviews and amendments will be notified to stakeholders and published on the DoA website.

The DoA is committed to ensuring that guidance and advice is sought and considered from affected stakeholders prior to amendments being finalized.

All stakeholders are responsible for ensuring that the most recent version of the guidance document is used.

## Contact Details

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## Quick Guide to Vehicle/Machinery Clearance at the Border

The information below is a quick guide for importers to enable and facilitate imports of vehicles/machinery into the Falklands at minimal cost and time in order to get biosecurity clearance at the border. Further details are found within specific sections of the guidance document.

- 1.** Talk to the DoA before vehicles/machinery are imported – DoA assistance prior to import will help minimise delays.
- 2.** Clean vehicles/machinery offshore – we don't want biosecurity risk organisms in the Falkland Islands.
- 3.** If they're not new vehicles/machinery, aim at getting them looking as new as possible- cleaned inside and out, washed, vacuumed, rubbish removed.
- 4.** Ensure that any cleaning system used is proven to effectively and consistently meet the contaminant threshold levels (Appendix 2) – talk to DoA about approved cleaning systems.
- 5.** Get documented evidence of the DoA approved cleaning system you're using. This tells the DoA that any inspection and/or decontamination treatment is probably not necessary – facilitating biosecurity clearance.
- 6.** Provide the required documentation for identifying each vehicle/unit of machinery to DoA.



## General Information

### 1. Introduction

This guidance document accompanies the DoA *Import Health Standard for Vehicles, Machinery and Mobile Homes - VEHICLE.ALL* (the “standard”). It provides importers and other affected stakeholders of vehicles/machinery/mobile homes/vehicle parts/tyres (shortened to “vehicles/machinery” for the purposes of this guidance document) with explanatory information, options and expectations to assist them in meeting the requirements of the standard and what actions DoA will undertake to verify compliance. It also outlines the accepted processes and procedures that supply chain parties and DoA inspectors should follow to control, manage or eradicate biosecurity risk organisms and contamination associated with vehicles/machinery in the absence of DoA approved equivalent measures. In effect, it answers such questions as:

1. How do I interpret the standard so that I can get my vehicle/machinery cleared at the border?
2. What does “clean” mean in practical and measurable terms?
3. What processes and procedures can I use to ensure vehicles/machinery are clean?
4. Who approves such processes and procedures and what are the minimum criteria that have to be met?
5. What will happen to vehicles/machinery that are not clean?

### 2. Failure to Meet Biosecurity Requirements - Non Compliance

Vehicles/machinery that do not meet the requirements of the standard will not be given biosecurity clearance and will be directed for further action (e.g., decontamination) as considered appropriate to manage the biosecurity risks and meet the requirements of the standard. Deliberate non-compliance with the requirements of the standard, or negligence leading to non-compliance, may lead to increased intervention or prosecution of liable parties.

### 3. Biosecurity Outcome

The desired outcome of the standard is that biosecurity risk organisms associated with vehicles/machinery are prevented from crossing the Falkland Islands’ border and establishing. Such establishment could adversely impact the environment, economy or health and safety of our people and community.

To achieve this outcome, biosecurity contaminants associated with vehicles/machinery need to be managed effectively and efficiently and in ways that do not unnecessarily impede trade and tourism.

### 4. Meeting Biosecurity Requirements

#### 4.1 General

The standard requires that **all vehicles/machinery/mobile homes/vehicle parts/tyres imported into the Falklands are clean**. The aim of undertaking any action to clean vehicles/machinery is to ensure that biosecurity risk organisms are not present.



To achieve this requirement, vehicles/machinery must be cleaned internally and externally, especially including those areas not readily accessible to physical inspection. This necessitates biosecurity interventions additional to physical inspection to ensure the requirement is met. In order to meet the requirement of “clean”, refer to section 4.2 below.

#### 4.2 Contaminant Threshold Levels

While ensuring that **biosecurity risk organisms are not present** is a target, the DoA acknowledges that achieving this presents practical difficulties and challenges in measurement and logistics. For this reason, clean vehicles/machinery are defined as those where the level of biosecurity contaminants is reduced to **at least the contaminant threshold levels** listed in Appendix 2. The threshold levels are the maximum levels of particular biosecurity contaminants permitted on/in each vehicle or unit of machinery. The validity of these levels will be kept under review and the DoA reserves the right to change them at any time through amendments to this guidance document.

Notably, high risk contaminants have a contaminant threshold of zero, meaning that vehicles/machinery will not receive biosecurity clearance if these are found. Intervention measures must focus on ensuring that high risk contaminants are not present.

Clean vehicles/machinery should be managed in such a way to ensure that recontamination does not occur prior to presentation for biosecurity clearance.

#### 4.3 Equivalence

There are a variety of means by which importers can ensure that vehicles/machinery are clean. To ensure that any method, system or process used to achieve cleanliness is validated as such, it must be approved by the DoA prior to being used on vehicles/machinery imported into the Falkland Islands.

#### 4.4 Information

In order to verify that biosecurity requirements have been met for each vehicle/unit of machinery, the following documentation is needed by the DoA. This documentation must accompany all vehicles/units of machinery arriving in the Falkland Islands.

- Evidence of pre-export inspections or treatments if available
- Vehicles, Machinery and Mobile Homes Declaration giving full details of;
  - Contact details of the consignor and consignee
  - Country of origin
  - Registration number / ID
  - Description of Consignment (make and model)
  - Completed and signed by the exporter

#### 4.5 Cargo Transported in Vehicles/Machinery

Vehicles/machinery that have been inspected offshore must not be used as cargo space (including boot space) for uncleared risk goods that may require treatment.



## 4.6 Vehicles/Machinery Potentially Requiring Fumigation or Other Decontamination Treatment

Vehicles/machinery are an increased biosecurity risk when found to be contaminated. Decisions on whether such treatment is required will be made by the DoA on a case-by-case basis. As a general guide, the types of vehicles/machinery include the following.

- Used agricultural and horticultural machinery,
- New vehicles/machinery that have become contaminated during transit, and
- Any other vehicle/unit of machinery that, by its very nature, use, source, history or other such factor, has been determined by an inspector to require treatment (e.g., garbage trucks, slurry tankers).

## 4.7 DoA Actions in the Absence of Approved Biosecurity Interventions

Where biosecurity interventions are not DoA approved, The DoA will implement one of two intervention options (described below) in order to meet the requirements of the standard.

Option 1:

- Physically inspected for the presence of visible contaminants.
- Inspected using a remote camera for the presence of concealed contaminants.
- If contaminants are detected, then remove/inactivate concealed contaminants in an approved manner.

Option 2:

- Physically inspected for the presence of visible contaminants.
- Thermal treatment or fumigation in an approved manner to remove/inactivate concealed contaminants.

## 4.8 Importing Contaminated Vehicles/Machinery

### 4.9.1 Management of Risk Offshore

The DoA strongly recommends that importers undertake biosecurity interventions offshore to reduce the likelihood of biosecurity contaminants, particularly high-impact risk organisms, entering the Falkland Islands. The Falklands have limited resources to deal with contaminated imports which may result in goods not meeting the requirements of the standard to be re-shipped. Offshore intervention will also assist in avoiding delays and costs on arrival.

## 5. Management of Uncleared Vehicles/Machinery - Treatment Responsibility

Contaminated goods are imported at the importers risk. If pre-clearance decontamination is required, this is entirely at the importers risk and expense in all respects.

## 6. Costs

Costs incurred in meeting this standard are the responsibility of the importer, as are the costs of treatments, decontamination, storage and re-shipment.



## Appendix 1 – Terms & Definitions

The following terms and definitions are used in this guidance document.

**NOTE:** This standard refers to “contaminant” in the general context of animate or inanimate objects **NOT** normally associated with vehicles and machinery and which may or may not be biosecurity risks. Accordingly, “decontamination” is used to describe the removal of contaminants or the inactivation of those which are biosecurity risks.

### **biosecurity contaminant** (= risk good)

Means any organism, organic material, or other thing, or substance, that (by reason of its nature, origin, or other relevant factors) it is reasonable to suspect constitutes, harbours, or contains an organism that may:

- a) Cause unwanted harm to natural and physical resources or human health in the Falkland Islands; or
- (b) Interfere with the diagnosis, management, or treatment, in the Falkland Islands, of pests or unwanted organisms.

### **biosecurity risk organisms**

Live organisms that are risk goods.

### **contaminant threshold level**

The maximum level of contamination permitted for a particular biosecurity contaminant.

### **equivalence**

The situation where, for a specified pest risk, different sanitary and phytosanitary measures achieve the same level of protection.

**NOTE:** As applied to biosecurity risk management, this definition means the use of different biosecurity risk management interventions to achieve the same or better outcome(s).

### **landed**

Discharged at port of entry.

### **machinery**

Mechanical devices that transmit or modify energy to perform or assist in the performance of human tasks, whether self-propelled, drawn, pushed or fixed in position, including:

- Agricultural and horticultural equipment, such as vehicles with tracks, balers, ploughs, wood chippers and mulchers, rollers, wool scouring plants, pesticide sprayers and cranes, drilling rigs, as well as equipment/machinery used to house and/or process plants and plant products or animal and animal products;
- Components of vehicles/machinery, such as engines, chassis, filters, suspension units and tyres, tracks, holding tanks and compartments;

- 
- Construction, building, and production equipment, such as concrete mixers, generators and road construction equipment;
  - Used research and diagnostic equipment, such as centrifuges, biohazard cabinets, air processing and extraction equipment, filters, stomachers and fume hoods, water samplers, waste disposals; and
  - Any item of equipment that an inspector deems is machinery as defined for the purposes of this standard.

#### **new vehicle/machinery**

Any vehicle/unit of machinery which is NOT:

- a used vehicle/unit of machinery and does not contain used structures, systems, components or equipment, or
- a custom-built vehicle/unit of machinery.

#### **physical inspection**

Visual inspection using eyesight alone under appropriate viewing conditions.

#### **used vehicle/machinery**

Any vehicle/unit of machinery which has been:

- supplied to the consumer market and sold,
- used for demonstration, testing, training or courtesy purposes, or
- previously registered or licensed.

#### **vehicle**

A conveyance that is used to transport people, objects or substances, including:

- Motorised vehicles such as buses, cars, motor cycles, trucks, trains, utility vehicles, vans, motor homes, motorised bicycles, forklifts, agricultural vehicles, golf carts and mobility scooters;
- Non-motorised and/or self-propelled vehicles imported as cargo such as trailers, caravans, vessels and aircraft, land yachts; and
- Damaged vehicles imported for repair or dismantling.

*But excluding:*

- Non-motorised bicycles imported as general cargo or personal effects; and
- Non-road vehicles not requiring registration from the Falkland Islands transport authorities such as skateboards, non-motorised scooters, and wheelchairs.

#### **vessel**

Craft or other artificial device used, or capable of being used, as a means of transportation on/in water such as ships, boats, barges, lighters, yachts, jet-skis, hovercraft, and submarines.

## Appendix 2 – Contaminant Threshold Levels

The following threshold levels are the maximum levels of contamination permitted on/in each vehicle or unit of machinery. The validity of these levels will be kept under review and the DoA reserves the right to change them at any time through amendments to this guidance document.

**Table 1 - Contaminant Threshold Levels**

Contaminant Type <sup>1</sup>	Per Vehicle/Unit of Machinery
Dead arthropods	presence permitted
Road film <sup>2</sup>	presence permitted
Plant material <sup>3</sup> /soil not detectable through visual inspection	presence permitted
Sand/other material free of plant residues or other organic materials	presence permitted
Fungi in rotten decks	restricted <sup>4</sup>
Seeds - in air filters	restricted <sup>4</sup>
- not in air filters (except below),	none
- associated with radiator/exhaust	presence permitted
Soil	20 grams
Dead desiccated plant material	5 units
Animal products/by-products <sup>5</sup>	none
Green or fresh plant material	none
Live animals <sup>6</sup>	none

1. Located anywhere in/on the vehicle/unit of machinery including contained structures.

2. Finely-textured particles of dust or particles free of organic material that may be deposited on or under a vehicle/unit of machinery as a thin film by air currents or from use on hard surfaced roads.

3. Includes fruit, leaves, twigs, bark, sawdust.

4. Based on the risk analysis<sup>8</sup>, presence may be permitted but is restricted where other risk factors may need to be taken into consideration (e.g., gross contamination), a risk decision warrants further consultation within MAFBNZ.

5. Includes blood, bones, fibre, meat, secretions, excretions, etc, but excludes moderate amounts of pet fur trapped in upholstery.

6. Includes arthropods, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, molluscs etc