

Commercial Shellfish Shipping Documentation

For Shellstock Shippers and Shucker Packers (Dealers)



These are frequently asked questions about the NSSP Model Ordinance Chapter 9 .04 and .05 requirements for Shellstock Shippers and Shucker-Packers (Dealers). This isn't all inclusive and it doesn't guarantee compliance.

What is Chapter 9 transportation documentation?

Chapter 9 transportation documentation is required under the NSSP Model Ordinance Chapter 9 .04 and 05. Chapter 9 .04 specifies the shipping temperature requirement and .05 refers to the transportation record.

What does the transportation documentation need to include?

It needs to include a time of shipment **and** written confirmation that the shellstock is shipped either: Adequately iced **or** in a conveyance (truck) pre-chilled to less than 45F.

Is shellstock temperature part of the Chapter 9 transportation documentation?

No. Shellstock temperature and cooling are very important and the requirements are addressed in a different section of the Model Ordinance. For Chapter 9 transportation documentation, the temperature of the shellstock is not required, only the conveyance temperature or that the shellstock is adequately iced.

As a dealer, what if I don't send a document with the shellstock or I didn't fill out my form?

You did not comply with Chapter 9 .05 requirements and it is the receiving dealer's responsibility to reject the shellstock as the shipment is missing critical information.

Can I pre-print a statement on the shipping invoices?

Pre-printed statements are acceptable if there is confirmation that an observation occurred. See examples below.

Example 1:

All shellstock was shipped in a conveyance pre-chilled to 45F or less. Time of shipment: _____

Example 1 **is not** in compliance with Chapter 9 .05 requirements. You have not indicated that you've made an observation of the truck temperature and you did not record the time of shipment.

Example 2:

All shellstock was shipped in a conveyance pre-chilled to 45F or less. Time of shipment: **2:15 pm**

Example 2 **is** in compliance. By adding a check mark, you are confirming that the truck temperature was observed at 45F or less and you've included a time of shipment.

Example 3:

All shellstock was shipped with adequate ice. Time of shipment: **2:15 pm**

Example 3 **is** in compliance. By adding a check mark, you are confirming that the product was observed with adequate ice when shipped and you've included a time of shipment.

As a dealer purchasing shellstock from another dealer, what does all of this mean to me?

As the receiving dealer, it is a HACCP requirement to review the Chapter 9 documentation that accompanies the shellstock when it arrives at your facility. It is your responsibility to ensure that the information is complete and meets the requirements of Chapter 9 .05 **before** accepting the shellstock shipment. If you don't receive a document or it is incomplete, **you must reject the shipment.**

How do I know if the document I'm receiving is acceptable? How do I know if the one I'm sending with my product is acceptable?

As the receiving dealer, you must review the document to see if it contains the required information. If the document does not meet the Chapter 9 .05 requirements, then you must reject the shipment. As a shipping dealer, you may have to discuss with your buyer how your document complies with Chapter 9 .05 requirements. If the document is unclear, then your shipment may be rejected. See chart below.

How did you receive the document?	Time of shipment included?	Observation included?	Does it meet the requirements?	Accept shipment?
Document with shipment	Yes	No	No, must contain both an observation and a time of shipment	→ Reject shipment
Document with shipment	No	Yes	No, must contain both an observation and a time of shipment	→ Reject shipment
Document emailed or faxed, not with shipment	Yes	Yes	No, must accompany product in transit	→ Reject shipment
Document with shipment	Yes	Yes	Yes!	→ Check other receiving critical limits (tags, etc.)

I am a dealer with a refrigerated truck. I pick up shellstock from another dealer and transport it to my facility. Who is responsible for Chapter 9 .05 documentation?

Chapter 9 .05 transportation documentation is a critical limit at receiving when shellstock is received from a shipping dealer. You, as the shipping dealer, must still record the temperature of the truck and the time of shipment. The dealer you are picking up from is not required to provide Chapter 9 .05. Note: This doesn't apply to common carriers, freight forwarding, or cold storage facilities.

I am a dealer shipping shellstock directly to retail. Do I need to provide Chapter 9 documentation?

No, Chapter 9 .05 transportation documentation requirements doesn't apply to shellstock shipments to retailers and food service operators.

More Resources

NSSP Model Ordinance, <https://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FederalStateFoodPrograms/ucm2006754.htm>

ISSC Time/Temperature Q&A, <http://www.issc.org/timetemperature-q-a>

Questions?

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