Risk Management in the Inspection Business

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Conformity Assessment Bodies (Inspection, Testing Certification) Activities are Aimed at Managing Risk whilst Facilitating Trade

**Before Shipment:**
- Documentary checks with analysis of declared goods’ value & HS classification
- Visual inspections: quantity & quality
- Sampling and testing laboratories
- Risk identification (to define destination inspection scope)
- Loading supervision and sealing

**At Destination:**
- Documentary checks and review of declared goods value & HS classification
- Visual inspections: quantity & quality
- Sampling & testing in laboratories
- Non intrusive inspections using scanners

*NB:* Conformity Assessment Bodies activities are ruled by the ISO 17000 family of standards.
Additional Services to Manage Risks for the Supply Chain and for the Consumers

Risks for Supply Chain Stakeholders (Customs, ports, transports, …) and Trade:
- **Fumigation**: Chemicals detection, sampling and lab testing
- **Radioactive or explosives**: Trace detection scanners - Gamma-Ray, Neutron, Fluorescence
- **Leaking containers**: Sampling and lab testing + containment of containers
- **Narcotics**: Organic detection scanners
- **Lethal goods**: Scanners - X-Ray, Millimetre waves
- **Counterfeit goods**: Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) investigations
- **Documents authentication**: Security measures

+ Risks for Consumers’ health and safety:
  - **Biological**
  - **Chemical**
  - **Physical**
    - Labelling, packaging, validity + Sampling and lab testing

Conformity assessments powerful to enforce international programs, e.g. FAO or WHO (Codex Alim.); or conventions, e.g.: Basel (Waste), Stockholm (Persistent Organic Pollut.), Rotterdam (Pesticides, Chemicals); or UN resolutions
Other Risk Mitigation Measures Assessed by Conformity Assessment Bodies

During Production:
• Food > OHSAS 18001, ISO 22000 management systems
• Chemicals > ROHS
• Non-Food > Product Certification, ISO Guide 65, CE Marking; GS Mark, …

Of Premises:
• Security management systems > ISPS for ports, C-TPAT, AEO
• Access controls > Vulnerability assessments, Staff credentials, Entrance

Along the Supply Chain:
• Tracking > GPRS devices on trucks
• Supply Chain Security > ISO 28000 management system

Developing countries may become end-destinations for waste, illegal, dangerous or counterfeit goods. Activities of Conformity Assessment Bodies, like Cotecna, are of strong assistance at origin and at destination to identify and report on such trade practices.