

## EXPORTS OF INFANT FORMULA TO CHINA

Exports of dairy products are important to the New Zealand economy. In fact, more than 90 percent of the milk and milk products produced here are shipped to overseas markets, making up more than NZ\$13 billion in annual export earnings.

Under New Zealand law (Animal Products Act 1999) only registered exporters can export dairy products (“dairy material” for the purposes of the Animal Products Act 1999). Infant formula is covered by this Act as it is a dairy product. These rules are in place to ensure that infant formula is safe and suitable for babies, no matter where in the world they are.

### **If you want to export infant formula from New Zealand to China**

1. Before you are eligible to export infant formula, you must register as an exporter with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) under the Animal Products Act (APA) 1999. Alternatively, you can enter into a contract with a registered exporter to do it for you. **Only exporters formally registered with MPI under the Animal Products Act are legally allowed to export infant formula.**
2. Once registered you can check whether MPI has any specific export requirements for the country you want to export to. You will also need to check whether the country you want to export to has set out any requirements that you have to comply with (for example relating to labelling and composition).
3. Purchase infant formula that is eligible for export to China from a manufacturer or wholesaler that operates under an export Risk Management Programme (RMP) verified by MPI or its agents. If you as the exporter do not have an RMP, the product must stay under the control of the manufacturer/wholesaler’s RMP or be sent directly by this RMP operator to another RMP operator right up until the point of export.
4. Apply for an Export Certificate from MPI for each exported consignment. Infant formula cannot be exported from New Zealand to China without an Export Certificate from MPI. To receive an Export Certificate (also commonly called a Health Certificate) infant formula must stay with an RMP holder continually prior to export. **If infant formula leaves the RMP chain it is no longer eligible for export to China.**
5. Register with New Zealand Customs or employ a customs broker to complete the necessary Customs clearance documents.

More information about exporting infant formula is available on MPI's website:

[www.foodsafety.govt.nz](http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz)