

BIO- TERRORISM ACT OF 2002

Show Managers who produce food shows, or whose exhibitors may be importing food products, are making exhibitors aware of the new rules being implemented by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The new rules stem from the Bio-Terrorism Act of 2002 and require all food importers involved in the manufacturing, processing, packaging or distributing of food and beverage products to register with the FDA by December 12, 2003. The regulations also apply to goods being imported for display only.

If shippers are not registered, under no circumstances should they attempt to arrange air freight or ocean freight because a prior notice to the FDA must be given for their shipments. (Air freight 4 hours prior to arrival) (Ocean freight 8 hours prior to arrival). The FDA might impose penalties for disobedience of their regulations and the products will most likely be destroyed at the shipper's expense.

Clarification on the above information can be found at the FDA's website or by calling them directly.

Link: www.fda.gov/oc/bioterrorism/bioact.html

Contact: FDA, 1-888-INFO-FDA.