



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
COMPLIANCE BRANCH

4298 Elysian Fields Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70122-3896
Telephone (504) 589-7166
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November 26, 1997

WARNING LETTER NO. 98-NOL-07

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. C. Roy Robert, Co-Owner, Manager
Seafood International Distributors, Inc.
Post Office Box 432 Henderson Station
Breux Bridge, Louisiana 70517

Dear Mr. Robert:

An inspection of your crabmeat and crawfish processing plant located at 1051-A Old Henderson Road, Breux Bridge, Louisiana, conducted on November 17-19, 1997, revealed numerous insanitary conditions. This causes your product, picked crabmeat, to be adulterated within the meaning of Section 402(a)(4) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (the Act).

Objectionable insanitary conditions noted included: (1) cook employees routinely handled live crabs and the hoist control, then handled the hoist control and contacted cooked crabs; (2) the hoist chain and electrical cord for the hoist contacted live crabs and then contacted cooked crabs as they were hoisted out of the cooker; (3) residues and debris from previous operations on processing equipment; (4) numerous structural defects; (5) trash and debris on the floor of the cook room; (6) inadequately constructed product handling equipment; (7) employee standing on a pallet then placing a perforated tray of cooked crab claws in the same area; (8) trays of cooked crabs stored against the walls in the cooler; (9) backing room employees failed to sanitize aprons and allowed the aprons to contact cooked crabs on the backing table; (10) employee handling trash cans, then touching the top of the picking tables; (11) inadequate sanitizing solutions for pickers on two days of operations; and (12) numerous other improper employee practices which could result in contamination of your cooked product.

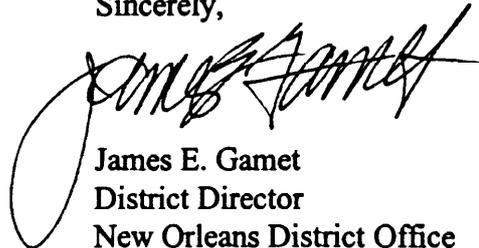
The above identification of violations is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of deficiencies at your facility. It is your responsibility to assure adherence with each requirement of the Good Manufacturing Practice Regulations.

You should take prompt action to correct these deviations. Failure to promptly correct these deviations may result in regulatory action without further notice. This may include seizure and/or injunction.

You should notify this office in writing, within 15 working days of receipt of this letter, of the steps taken to correct the noted violations, including an explanation of each step taken to prevent the recurrence of similar violations. If corrective action can not be completed within 15 working days, state the reason for this delay and the time within which the corrections will be completed.

Your response should be directed to Richard D. Debo, Compliance Officer, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 4298 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70122-3896, telephone number (504) 589-7166. Should you have any questions concerning the contents of this letter, or if you desire a meeting with the agency staff, do not hesitate to contact Mr. Debo.

Sincerely,



James E. Gamet
District Director
New Orleans District Office

Enclosure: FDA-483

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