

Draft Issued for Comment Only. Do Not Use to Submit a Process Filing to FDA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Food Process Filing for Low-Acid Retorted Method (Form FDA 2541d)

Note: There are separate process filing forms for each of the following: Food Process Filing for Low-Acid Retorted Method (Form FDA 2541d); Food Process Filing for Acidified Method (Form FDA 2541e); Food Process Filing for Water Activity/Formulation Control Method (Form FDA 2541f); and Food Process Filing for Low-Acid Aseptic Systems (Form FDA 2541g).

USE FDA INSTRUCTIONS ENTITLED " Instructions for Paper Submission of Form FDA 2541d (Food Process Filing for Low-Acid Retorted Method)"

Date Received by FDA __/__/____ (MM/DD/YYYY) (FDA USE ONLY)

Food Canning Establishment (FCE) Number: _____

Submission Identifier (SID) 20__-__-__/____ (YYYY-MM-DD/SSS)

A. Product Information:

Note: Section A.1 (Food Product Group) requests optional information.

1. (Optional) Select one Food Product Group. If there is no single best Food Product Group that applies, select Other.

Aquaculture Seafood (e.g., farming of aquatic organisms including fish, mollusks, crustaceans, etc.); Baby Food;

Beans, Corn, or Peas (Select one): Beans or Peas - Dry or Mature Soaked; Beans, Corn, Peas - Fresh Succulent;

Berry/Citrus/Core Fruit (Select one): Berry/Citrus/Core Fruit; Berry/Citrus/Core Fruit as a Jam, Jelly, Preserve, Drink, Syrup, Topping;

Beverage Base; Breakfast Foods (liquid form – ready-to-eat, such as porridge, gruel); Cheese (does not include soy cheese or imitation dairy); Cocoa; Coffee/Teas (excluding herbal and botanical teas);

Crustacean (e.g., crab, shrimp, lobster, etc.); Dairy (milk-based); Dietary Supplement and/or herbal and botanical teas;

Dressings/Condiments (e.g., salad dressing, chutney, salsa, pepper sauce, etc.); Engineered Seafood (e.g., shelf-stable imitation crab, surimi, etc.);

Exotic Meat (includes sausages such as vienna sausage, etc.); Fishery (finfish) Fishery (other aquatic (e.g., alligator, cuttlefish, frog legs, squid, etc.));

Fruit as a Vegetable (Select one): Fruit as a Vegetable (e.g., eggplant, pumpkin, etc.) Fruit as a Vegetable Juice or Drink (e.g., eggplant juice, pumpkin juice, etc.);

Fungi (e.g., mushrooms, pleurotus, truffles, etc.); Gelatin, Pudding Filling for Pies, Pie Filling (liquid form ready-to-eat such as apple pie filling, etc.); Imitation Dairy (includes soy-based products);

Imitation/Pit/Mixed/Subtropical Fruit (Select one): Imitation/Pit/Mixed/Subtropical Fruit; Imitation/Pit/Mixed/Subtropical Fruit as a Jam, Jelly, Preserve, Drink, Syrup, Topping;

Leafy/Stem Vegetables (Select one): Leafy/Stem Vegetable; Leafy/Stem Vegetable as a Juice or Drink (e.g., spinach juice, etc.);

Meal Replacement/Medical Foods (e.g., supplemental liquid nutrition, etc.); Mixed Fishery (e.g., seafood salad, seafood bisque, etc.);

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Mixed Vegetables (Select one): Mixed Vegetables (e.g., carrots and peas, etc.); Mixed Vegetables as a Juice or Drink (e.g., carrot and green bean juice, etc.);

Multiple Food (one container with a separate compartment for each product item. e.g., lasagna dinner, chop suey dinner, etc.); Noodle/Pasta; Nut Spread and Nut Topping; Other Vegetables;

Pet Food (e.g., dog/cat food, etc.); Rice, Wheat, Oat or Grain (liquid form – ready-to-eat such as grits);

Root and Tuber Vegetables (Select one): Root/Tuber Vegetables (e.g., carrots, leeks, potatoes, etc.); Root/Tuber Vegetables as a Juice or Drink (e.g., carrot juice, etc.);

Shelled Egg; Shellfish (e.g., clams, mussels, oysters, etc.); Soup (does not include seafood-type soups); Sweet Goods/Dessert (liquid form – ready-to-eat, such as pudding);

Vine/Other Fruit (Select one): Vine/Other Fruit; Vine/Other Fruit as a Jam, Jelly, Preserve, Drink, Syrup, Topping; Wine Cooler; Other

2. Enter Product Name (e.g., beans, green; mushrooms (button); tuna (light); sardines (sild)).

3. What is the form of the product? Chunks (e.g., chunks, nuggets, etc.) Cut Diced Fillet French Cut Liquid (i.e., all liquid no solids) On the Cob
 Paste/Puree Pieces Round/Spheres Shredded/Julienne Sliced (e.g., slices, quarters, strips, etc.) Spears/Stalks Whole
 Other _____

4. What is the packing medium? Brine Cream/Sauce/Gravy Oil Solid (no packing medium) Syrup Water None (i.e., the product is all liquid)
 Other _____

Continue to Section B.

B. Governing Regulation: (Refer to the precursor questions in the instructions)

Low-acid (21 CFR 108.35 and 21 CFR Part 113)

Continue to Section C.

C. Container Type: (Select one)

Note: If the product is not packaged in one of the container types identified below, select Other option.

1. Aluminum/Tinplate/Steel Can

a) What is the shape of the container? **(Select one)** Cylindrical Irregular **(Attach a picture or schematic)** Oval Rectangular Other _____ **(Attach a picture or schematic)**

b) How many pieces are used to construct the container? **(Select one)**

i. 2-pieces – Do you use perforated divider plates? Yes No

ii. 3-pieces – Do you use perforated divider plates? Yes No How is the side seam sealed? **(Select one)** Cemented Welded

c) Is the container a low-profile container? Yes (If yes, answer either question c.i or c.ii) No (If no, continue to Section D)

i. Heat penetration test was conducted with nested containers. **(Attach study and picture or diagram)**

ii. Nesting of Containers prevented by: **(Select one)**

Brick Stacked Lid to Lid / Bottom to Bottom Perforated Divider Plates Racks Spiral

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2. Ceramic/Glass
- a) What is the shape of the container? **(Select one)** Cylindrical Irregular **(Attach a picture or schematic)** Rectangular Other _____ **(Attach a picture or schema)**
- b) Do you use perforated divider plates? Yes No
- c) Is overpressure used during the processing of the product to maintain container integrity? Yes (Continue to c.i) No (Continue to c.ii-c.iv)
- i. What is the total overpressure used during processing? ____ (enter in pounds per square inch gauge (psig)) (Continue to Section D)
- ii. What is the percent (%) headspace? ____
- iii. What is the minimum initial temperature? ____ (enter in Fahrenheit)
- iv. What is the vacuum? ____ (enter in inches of mercury (Hg))
3. Flexible Pouch
- a) What is the shape of the container? **(Select one)** Flat pouch Gable top Gable top/side gusseted Gusseted Irregular **(Attach a picture or schematic)**
 Other _____ **(Attach a picture or schematic)**
- b) Is the container physically restricted during the processing of the product to control container thickness? Yes (Continue to b.i) No (Continue to c)
- i. Racks Other _____ **(Attach a picture)**
- c) Is overpressure used during the processing of the product to control container thickness? Yes (Continue to c.i) No (Continue to d)
- i. What is the total overpressure used during processing? ____ (enter in pounds per square inch gauge (psig))
- d) What is the maximum thickness during retort processing? ____ (enter in inches)
- e) What is the maximum residual air? ____ (enter in cubic centimeters)
4. Retortable Paperboard Carton
- a) What is the shape of the container? **(Select one)** Rectangular Other _____ **(Attach a picture or schematic)**
- b) Is the container physically restricted during the processing of the product to control container thickness? Yes (Continue to b.i) No (Continue to c)
- i. Racks Other _____ **(Attach a picture)**
- c) Is overpressure used during the processing of the product to control container thickness? Yes (Continue to c.i) No (Continue to d)
- i. What is the total overpressure used during processing? ____ (enter in pounds per square inch gauge (psig))
- d) What is the maximum thickness during retort processing? ____ (enter in inches)
- e) What is the maximum residual air? ____ (enter in cubic centimeters)
5. Semi-Rigid
- a) What is the shape of the container? **(Select one)** Bowl Cylindrical Irregular **(Attach a picture or schematic)** Oval Rectangular Tray
 Other _____ **(Attach a picture or schematic)**
- b) Is this a compartmentalized container? Yes How many compartments? ____ No
- c) What is the predominant material used to make the body of the container? **(Select one)**
 HDPE (high-density polyethylene) HDPP (high-density polypropylene) Paperboard PET (polyethylene terephthalate) Other _____
- d) What is the predominant material used to make the lid of the container? **(Select one)**
 Aluminum HDPE (high-density polyethylene) HDPP (high-density polypropylene) Nylon PET (polyethylene terephthalate) Other _____ Not Applicable
- e) How is the lid sealed to the body of the container? **(Select one)**
 Double Seam Heat Seal Induction Weld Press Twist Snap On Threaded Closure Ultrasonic Seal Other _____ Not Applicable
- f) Is the container physically restricted during the processing of the product to control container thickness? Yes (Continue to f.i) No (Continue to g)
- i. Racks Other _____ **(Attach a picture)**
- g) Is overpressure used during the processing of the product to control container thickness? Yes (Continue to g.i) No (Continue to h)
- i. What is the total overpressure used during processing? ____ (enter in pounds per square inch gauge (psig))

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- h) What is the maximum thickness during retort processing? ____ (enter in inches)
- i) What is the maximum residual air? ____ (enter in cubic centimeters)

6. Other (Enter container type) _____
- a) Attach schematic or picture of container.
 - b) Specify the material that, based on weight, is the predominant material used to make the container stock. This is the material that constitutes the highest weight value of the container stock. _____
 - c) Specify the material that, based on weight, is the predominant material used to make the lid stock. This is the material that constitutes the highest weight value of the lid stock. If the container does not have a lid, specify Not Applicable. _____
 - d) Specify the method used to seal the lid to the body of the container. If the container does not have a lid, specify Not Applicable. _____

Continue to Section D.

D. Container Size:

Note: Section D.1 (dimensions) is required information. However, section D.2 (net weight) is optional information.

- 1. Dimensions:
 - a) _____ Diameter _____ Height (Use for cylindrical shapes) (see accompanying instructions for proper coding)
 - b) _____ Length _____ Width _____ Height (Use this option for container shapes other than cylindrical) (see accompanying instructions for proper coding)
- 2. Net Weight (Optional): _____ (enter in ounces)

Continue to Section E.

E. Processing Method: Thermally Processed Non-Aseptic System:

- 1. What is the finished equilibrium pH of the product after processing? _____
- 2. Heating Medium (Select one)
 - a) High pressure assisted Microwave Ohmic (electrodes) Steam Steam-air with a fan (Attach a heat distribution study) Water cascade Water immersion Water spray
 - Other _____

Continue to Section F.

F. Process Mode: (Select one)

1. Mode

- a) Agitating: (Select one)
 - i. Axial (Select one) Batch Continuous
 - ii. End over End (Only batch)
 - iii. Oscillation (Only batch) (Select one) High frequency Low frequency
- b) Still: (Select one)
 - i. Horizontal
 - ii. Vertical

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2. Cooker: What type of cooker do you use? (Select one)

- a) Crateless: Bottom Surface: (Select one) Solid Perforated
- b) Hydrolock
- c) Hydrostat
- d) Retort
- e) Rotomatic/Rotary
- f) Sterilmatic
- g) Other _____ (Attach documentation)

Continue to Section G.

G. Process System Critical Factors:

- 1. What is the filling method(s) used to fill the product into the container? (Select all that apply) Hand filling Piston filling Pocket filler Vibrating/Tumble filling Volumetric filling
- 2. How many phases are used to fill the container with the product? (Select one) Single Phase Two Phase Three Phase
- 3. Is the product vacuum packed? Yes No
- 4. What is the container position in retort? (Select one) (Under Section F.1 when Agitating is selected, skip this question).
 Brick Stacked Horizontal Jumbled/Random Lid Down Lid Up Vertical

When heating medium of high pressure assisted, microwave, ohmic, or steam is selected in Section E, skip G.5 and G.6.

- 5. Minimum Come-Up-Time: ___ (enter in minutes) (Attach a temperature distribution study)

When heating medium of steam-air is selected in Section E, skip G.6

- 6. Minimum Water Flow Rate: ___ (enter using gallons per minute (gpm))

Continue to Section H.

H. Product Critical Factors: (Complete all product critical factor questions as delineated by process authority to assure commercial sterility.)

- 1. Does the product contain particulates? Yes (Continue to a) No (Continue to H.2)
 - a) Is controlling the particulate size a critical factor? Yes (Continue to b-d) No (Continue to H.2)
 - b) What is the maximum dimension of the particulate size? _____ (Select one) inches millimeters
 - c) Does your product contain fines? Yes (Continue to c.i) No (Continue to d)
 - i. What is the maximum percent? _
 - d) Is full rehydration of the particulate a critical factor? Yes No
- 2. Does the product contain any dry ingredients? Yes (Continue to a) No (Continue to H.3)
 - a) What is the minimum % moisture of dry ingredients before processing? _____ Not Applicable
- 3. How are pieces arranged in the container? (Select one) Head to Tail Heads/Tips Down Heads/Tips Up Horizontal Layered Vertical
 Other _____ (Attach an explanation) Not Applicable

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4. Does the % solids affect the heating of the product during processing? Yes (Continue to a) No (Continue to H.5)
 a) What is the % solids? _ _ . _ _
5. Is the finished equilibrium pH of the product after processing (identified in Section E) critical to the process? Yes No
6. Does consistency/viscosity affect the heating of the product? Yes (Continue to a-c) No (Continue to H.7)
 a) What instrument is used to measure the consistency/viscosity? _____
 b) What is the temperature when you measure the consistency/viscosity? _ _ . _ _ (enter in Fahrenheit)
 c) What is the consistency/viscosity? _ _ . _ _ _ What is the unit of measure? (Select one) Centipoise Other _____
7. Is starch added to maintain consistency/viscosity of the product? Yes (Continue to a-b) No (Continue to H.8)
 a) What is the maximum % starch added? _ _ . _ _
 b) What type of starch is added? _____
8. Are other binders added? Yes (Continue to a-b) No (Continue to H.9)
 a) What is the maximum % binder added? _ _ . _ _
 b) What is the type of binder added? _____
9. Does syrup strength affect the heat penetration during processing of the product? Yes (Continue to a) No (Continue to Section I)
 a) What is the brix measurement? _ _ . _ _

Continue to Section I.

I. Scheduled Process Source: (Complete the questions below)

***Note: If you selected "Still" as the mode in Section F.1, and "Steam" as the heating medium in Section E.1, you may select "Unknown" or "Locally Made" for sterilizer if applicable.**

1. Process Source: a) What is the Process Source? _____ (Attach support documentation)
 b) What is the date of the Process Source (mm/dd/yyyy)? _ / _ / _ _ _ _
2. What is the Manufacturer's Name and the Sterilizer Model: _____ * Unknown/Locally Made (Attach pictures and documentation)

Continue to Section J.

J. Scheduled Process: (Do not write in shaded areas -- Check appropriate box under column heading, when applicable, and enter numerical values on dashed lines.)

Col. 1	Col. 2	Col. 3	Col. 4	Col. 5	Col. 6	Col. 7	Col. 8	Col. 9	Col. 10	Col. 11	Col. 12	Col. 13
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Process No	Step	Minimum Initial Temp.	Process Time	Process Temp.	Fo (F18/250)	Thruput (Containers per Minute)	Headspace	a. Reel Speed	b. Reel Diameter	c. Steps per Turn of Reel	d. Chain / Conveyer Speed	e. Cooker Capacity	f. Frequency Strokes per Minute	Maximum Fill Weight	Minimum Free Liq. at Closing	Minimum Container Closing Machine Gauge Vacuum	Other
						Agitating-Axial Continuous ONLY		Agitating - End Over End or Agitating - Axial ONLY	Sterilmatic Cooker ONLY	Agitating-Axial Continuous ONLY	Hydrolock or Hydrostat ONLY	Sterilmatic Cooker ONLY	Oscillation Agitating ONLY				
							<input type="checkbox"/> Net <input type="checkbox"/> Gross <input type="checkbox"/> NA				<input type="checkbox"/> Feet <input type="checkbox"/> Carriers <input type="checkbox"/> Flights (per minute)			<input type="checkbox"/> NA		Temp. (+/- 3° F) _____	
Number	Number	°Fahrenheit	Minutes	°Fahrenheit	Minutes	Number	Inches	RPM	Inches	Number	Inches	Number	Number	Ounces	Ounces	In. Hg.	

Comments:

Full Name (Please Type or Print)		Signature		
Establishment Name	State or Province	Country (other than U.S.)	Date	Telephone No

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LACF Contact Information

For more information, contact the LACF Registration Coordinator by e-mail at LACF@FDA.HHS.GOV or phone: 240-402-2411

For paper submissions, send completed forms to:

Food and Drug Administration
LACF Registration Coordinator ((HFS-303))
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
5100 Paint Branch Parkway
College Park, MD 20740-3835

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