



Better Training for Safer Food *Initiative*

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

BTSEF

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Personal luggage and vehicles Legislation and implementation, collaboration between national institutions and experiences

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Personal Imports (1)

The European Food and Drug Administration (EFSA) has assessed the risk of disease introduction as a very high risk for example, that dangerous pathogens that cause animal diseases

Foot and Mouth Disease

Classical /African swine fever

Avian influenza (*Separate viral strains are hazardous to humans like PG H5N1*)



Personal Imports (2)

Therefore, **pathogens could be introduced into the EU** if personal goods containing meat, milk or their products are sent by post or carried in the baggage of travelers arriving from countries outside the EU, where such pathogens may be circulating.



Introduction and legal basis (1)

Based on **Council Directive 97/78/EC Art.16.1.(a)**:

«form part of travelers' personal luggage and are intended for their personal consumption, insofar as the quantity does not exceed a quantity to be defined in accordance with paragraph 3 and provided that the products come from a Member State or a third country or part of a third country appearing on the list adopted in accordance with Community rules, and from which imports are not prohibited»

- foodstuffs and pet food of animal origin
- introduced from third countries
- for personal consumption
- carried by travellers in luggage or vehicles
- possible to enter EU territory via any BCP
- exempted from veterinary border inspection
- controlled by Customs upon entry



Introduction and legal basis (2)


Current rules have been laid down by Commission **Regulation (EC) No 206/2009** of 5 March 2009 on the introduction into the Community of personal consignments of products of animal origin and amending Regulation (EC) No 136/2004

This Regulation lays down rules concerning the introduction into the Community of personal consignments of products of animal origin of a non commercial character which form part of travelers' luggage, or are sent as small consignments to private persons, or are ordered remotely (for example, by mail, by telephone or via the Internet) and delivered to the consumer.

Introduction and legal basis (3)

This Regulation clearly explains to the general public the rules concerning the introduction of animal products into the EU.

Namely:

 Travelers are not allowed to bring in **meat, milk or their products**, unless they are coming with less than 10 kilograms of these products from the Faroe Islands, Greenland, or Iceland



The biggest problems in case of disease outbreak (1)

The animal population has not been vaccinated against the pathogen;

Disease pathogens move / spread at an unbelievable rate;

Cause major economic losses to agriculture, food industry and tourism

Compulsory slaughter of millions of animals;

Export blocking for several years



The biggest problems in case of disease outbreak (2)

2001 FMD outbreak in UK caused
depopulation of 6 million animals
depopulation of 120 300 farms
60 suicides
costs round 5 milliard €



Introduction and legal basis (4)

 There also is an exemption for powdered infant milk, infant food, and special foods required for medical reasons, if weighing less than **2 kilograms** and provided that:

- such products do not require refrigeration before opening
- that they are packaged proprietary brand products for direct sale to the final consumer, and
- the packaging is unbroken unless in current use



Introduction and legal basis (5)


Special **pet feed** required for medical reasons* **2**kg total weight per person travelling

**provided that:*

- the product does not require refrigeration before consumption*
- the product is in commercially branded packaging*
- the packaging is unbroken unless in current use*



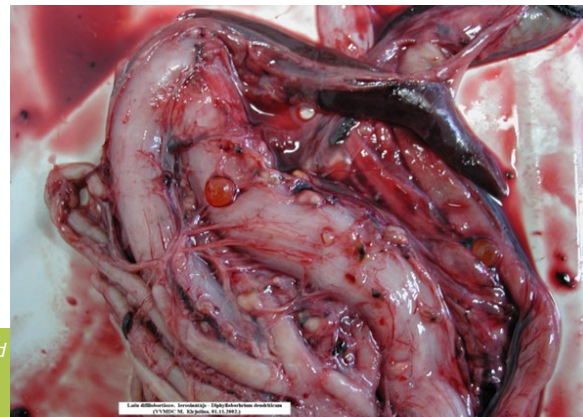
Introduction and legal basis (6)

 For **fishery products** (including fish and certain shellfish such as prawns, lobsters, dead mussels and dead oysters), travelers are allowed to bring in **up to 20 kilograms** or the weight of one fish if this is higher.

However, there is no such weight restriction for travelers coming from the Faeroe Islands or Iceland



 Fresh fish must be gutted



Introduction and legal basis (7)

🔔 For **other animal products**, such as honey, live oysters, live mussels and snails for example, travelers are allowed to bring in **up to 2 kilograms**

bivalves (live) mussels and oysters

eggs/egg products

frogs' legs (hind part of the frog with the skin/internal organs removed)

honey

insect meat

snail meat (edible land snails, shelled)

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Introduction and legal basis (8)

For certain protected species, additional restrictions may apply for example:

caviar of sturgeon species: **125 grams** per person



If you wish to send by post, regardless of the amount, or bring in more than 125 grams in your personal luggage you **must** have the correct CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) permits, or all of the product will be seized.

Introduction and legal basis (8)

🔔 These rules do not apply to animal products transported **between the 28 EU countries**, or for animal products coming from Andorra, Liechtenstein, Norway, San Marino, and Switzerland.

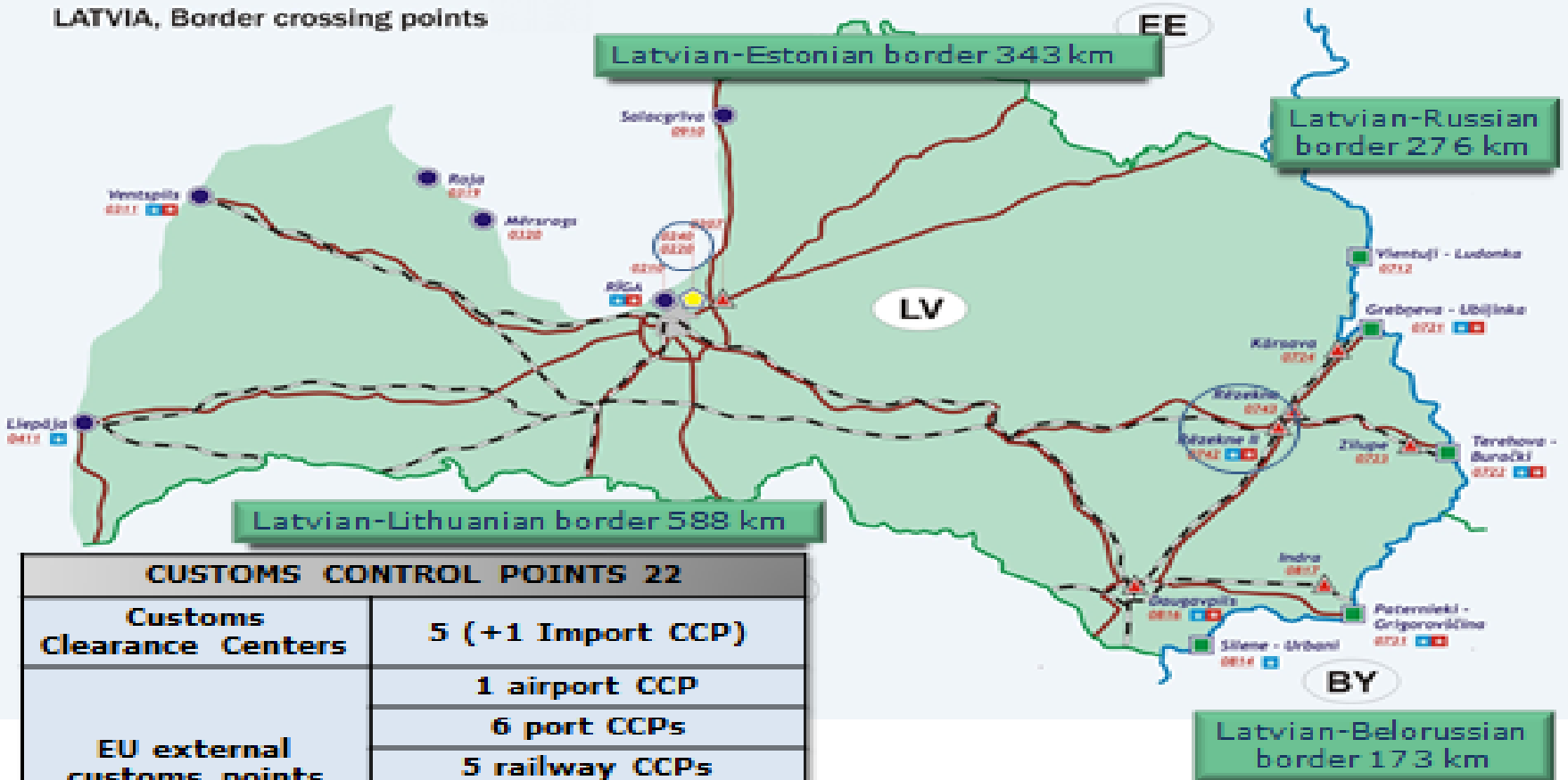




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Collaboration between national institutions (1)

LATVIA, Border crossing points



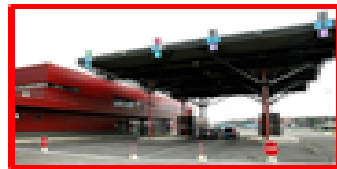
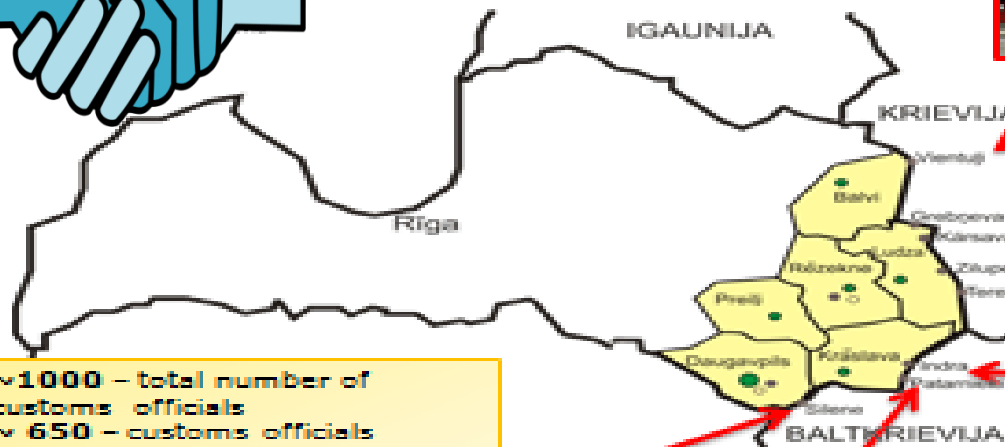


European Commission

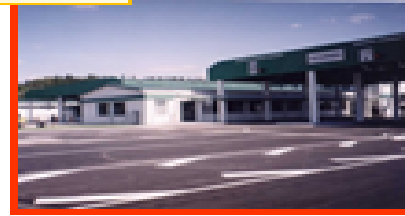
Collaboration between national institutions (2)



Eastern border CCP



~1000 – total number of customs officials
 ~ 650 – customs officials working in all Latvian CCP
 ~350 (~50%) – customs officials working on Eastern border CCP



The control sequence of the border crossing point



Border Guard

- radiological control
- immigration control
- border surveillance



Food and Veterinary Service

- veterinary and safety control on foods and goods
- safety control on non-human consumption products
- control of compliance with phytosanitary, quality and classification requirements

Customs



Clearance



Scanning



Physical control
(including control of domestic (pet) animals, control of products of animal origin in luggage)

Border

Food safety

EU

Normative Basis for Control of Products of Animal Origin in luggage (1)

Regulation No 206/2009
(in force from 1 May 2009)

Prescribes:

- measures concerning the introduction of products of animal origin for personal human consumption (in luggage and in consignments);
- bringing in/sending the forbidden products of animal origin;
- bringing in/sending the permitted types of products and quantity restrictions

Veterinary Medicine Law
Paragraph two, Section 52
(from 3 May 2006)

Prescribes:

- luggage and private consignments containing products of animal origin, as well as domestic (pet) animals that are controlled by the customs offices of the State Revenue Service at the customs control points on the state border

Latvian Administrative
Violations Code
Section 108.⁵
(from 13 May 2009)

Specifies the administrative liability for violation of requirements on the introduction of products of animal origin for personal human consumption:

- for the first time – a warning shall be issued with the **confiscation of the products**;
- if repeatedly determined within a year – impose a monetary fine from 7eur up to 70eur, with the **confiscation of the products**

Regulation of the Cabinet No. 704 "Regulations Regarding Border Crossing Points and Checks to be Performed Therein"
Annex 2

Prescribes border crossing points in which the customs performs:

- checks of the luggage and private consignments;
- checks of the domestic (pet) animals

Normative Basis for Control of Products of Animal Origin in Luggage (2)

Interagency agreement concluded on **8 November 2013** between SRS and FVS regarding luggage control, control of introduction of the domestic (pet) animals, procedures on co-operation and circulation of information

Prescribes:

- ❖ collection, transportation, storage, transfer and liquidation of products;
- ❖ registration and accounting of the performed controls;
- ❖ exchange of information, consultations and contact persons;
- ❖ training and supervising measures;
- ❖ co-operation with the postal service;
- ❖ conditions on collection, transportation, storage of the removed products
- ❖ preparation of the reports for EC and FVS

Instructions of the National Customs Board given to customs officers

In 2013:

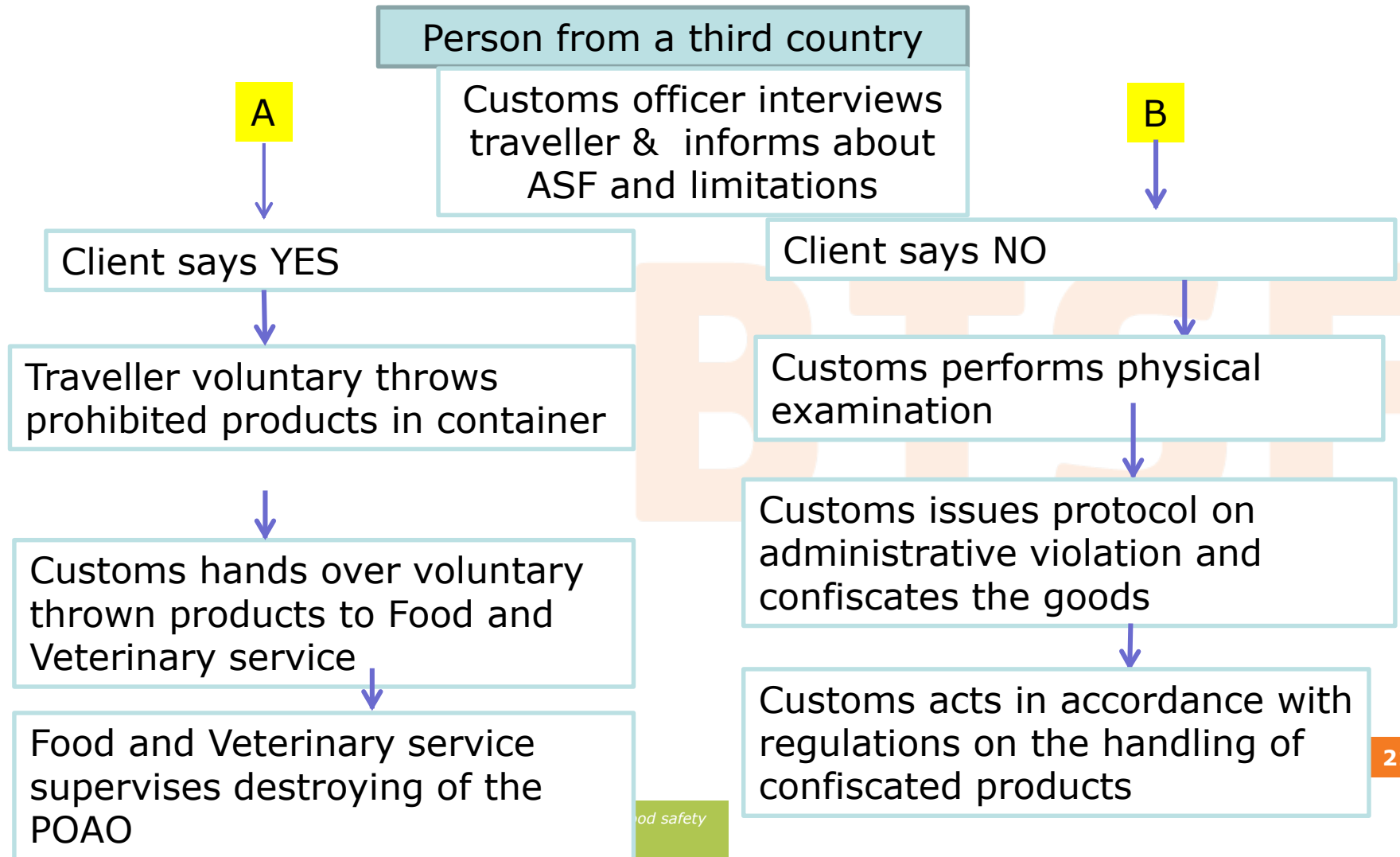
13.12.2013. Instruction No 27.8.4/5233 (new interagency agreement; co-operation, record keeping, conditions on collection, transportation, storage of the removed products, reports, etc.)

Luggage inspection principles

Interview with a reminder of the prohibited products;
Random check;
Actions in the case of detection of prohibited products:
request to be thrown out



Technology of control - luggage



'visual luggage search' and an 'in-depth luggage search'

In accordance with the internal instructions:

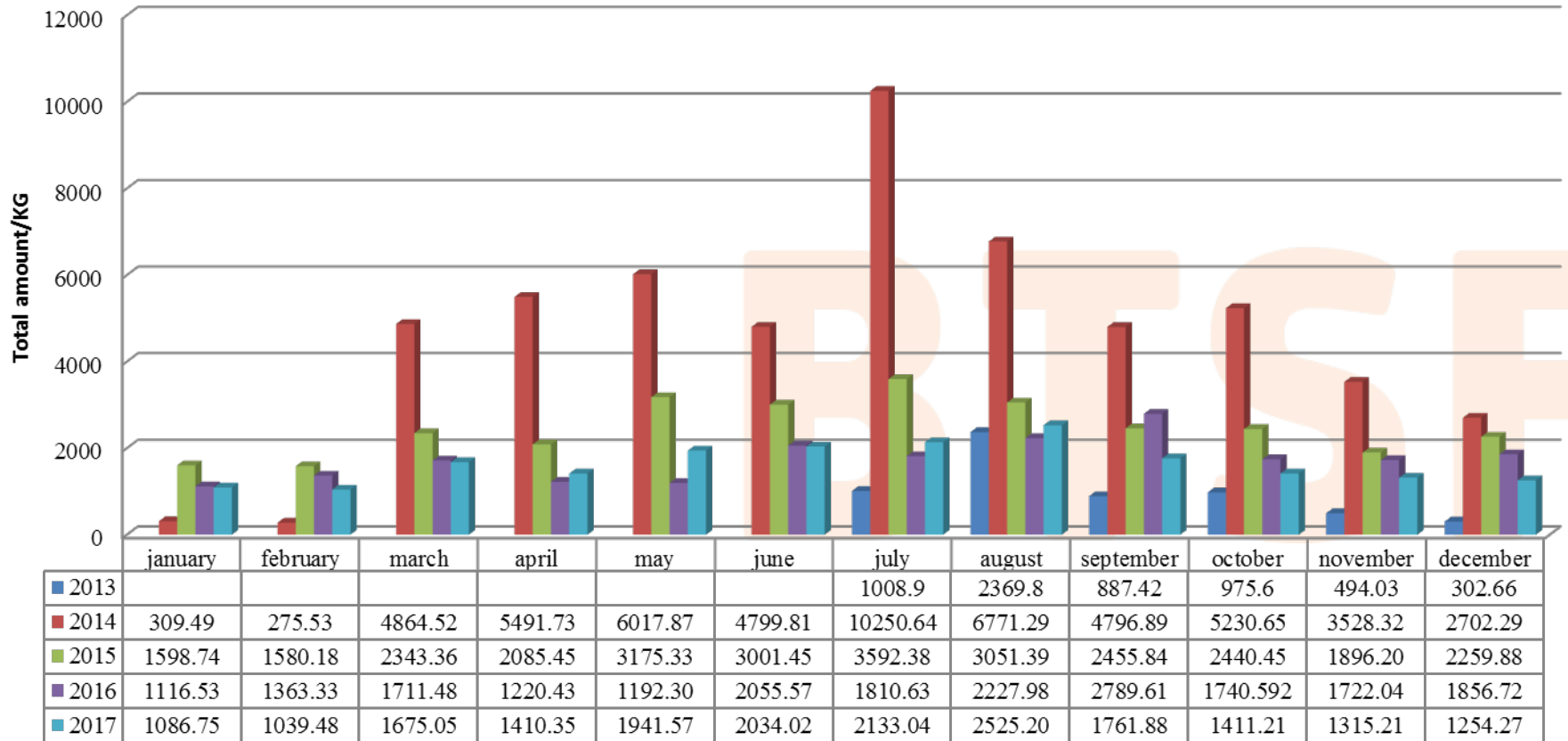
- **'visual luggage search'** – consists one or more actions: general inspection of the object, including, using customs technical equipment (weighing, scanning) and service dogs to detect inconsistencies and clarify the need for in-depth inspections. Visual inspection also includes identification of the vehicle and comparison of the number, inspection of the outside the vehicle, the vehicle cargo compartment opening, inspection of personal belongings, baggage, international mail (also by using X-ray), counting and checking of the cash, namely it is visual inspection without opening containers, trailers, boxes or bags.
- **'in-depth luggage search'** – consists of two or more actions: includes visual inspection activities, as well as partial or full control of the object based on the identified risks, including products counting, measuring, packaging opening at random, complete unloading of goods, or opening of all packaging, complete vehicle inspection, product sampling.





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Destroyed products from 1 July 2013 - 31 December 2017



2014 = **55 039,03** kg; 2015 = **29 480,65** kg; 2016 = **20 807,212** kg; 2017 = **19 588,04** kg



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Product way in the CCP



1. Determine



**2. Thrown
away**



3. Incineration

24



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Results of controls



Food safety

What is an ABP?

*Animal **B**y **P**roduct*

Product of an animal

Not destined for human consumption **BUT**

at the same time, was intended for human consumption:

Products or foods of animal origin originally meant for human consumption but withdrawn for not-allowed reasons, not because it's unfit to eat

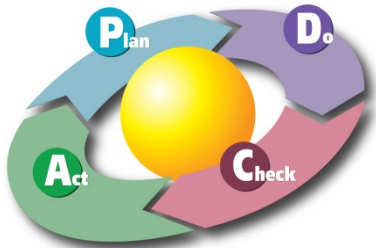
Based on Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 ABP categorisation:

Category 2 material:

...«imported or introduced from a third country and fail to comply with Community veterinary legislation for their import» ...

"CATEGORY 2 Material Not for Animal Consumption"

Customs' Action Regarding ASF



- **The control of the conformity and disinfection of the vehicles in which live animals are conveyed is beyond the direct competence of customs. Customs officers, within daily duties, may divert the vehicles that convey live animals (empty or with the animals) to FVS for documentary control (not registered).**

- **Luggage control is within the customs competence at the customs control points only.**
- **The control is performed on the basis of the interagency agreement concluded between SRS and FVS on 8 November, 2013. The control of the travellers' from Russia and Belarus luggage is performed on the basis of the written request of FVS and instructions issued by the National Customs Board to customs officers.**
- **In 2015 the National Customs Board has not diverted the additional personnel to luggage control because this task is constantly performed by a definite number of customs officials.**
- **In 2015, the number of the in-depth luggage controls and consignments has been decreased.**
- **Records on amount of animal origin products per week emailed to FVS central office.**

Sources of information for customs officials

Training

Training by
FVS officials

Training by
NCB officials

Information
in Document
Sharing
Server (DKS)

Information
from NCB

- Internal
regulatory
enactments
- Newsletters
/ Explanations

**Organized according to results of the FVS monitoring results*
**They may be local (by nearest BIB officials) or centralized (organized by SRS personnel specialists and trained FVS officials;*
** There are handouts and presentation of the regulatory framework, requirements, conditions, current events, as well as a testing job (test)*
** After the training the presentations are available for each of the customs officers in the internal information system - Document Sharing Server (DKS)*

Information exchange between Competent Authorities

Food and Veterinary Service

**Border Control
Department
(CA)**

**Border
Inspection
Post**

- exchange of information on current events
- solving major challenges
- experts and management meetings on general issues
- conceptual solution and decision-making
- organization of training
- updating of information

- exchange information on the latest developments at the regional level
- solving pending problems
- regional experts and management meetings

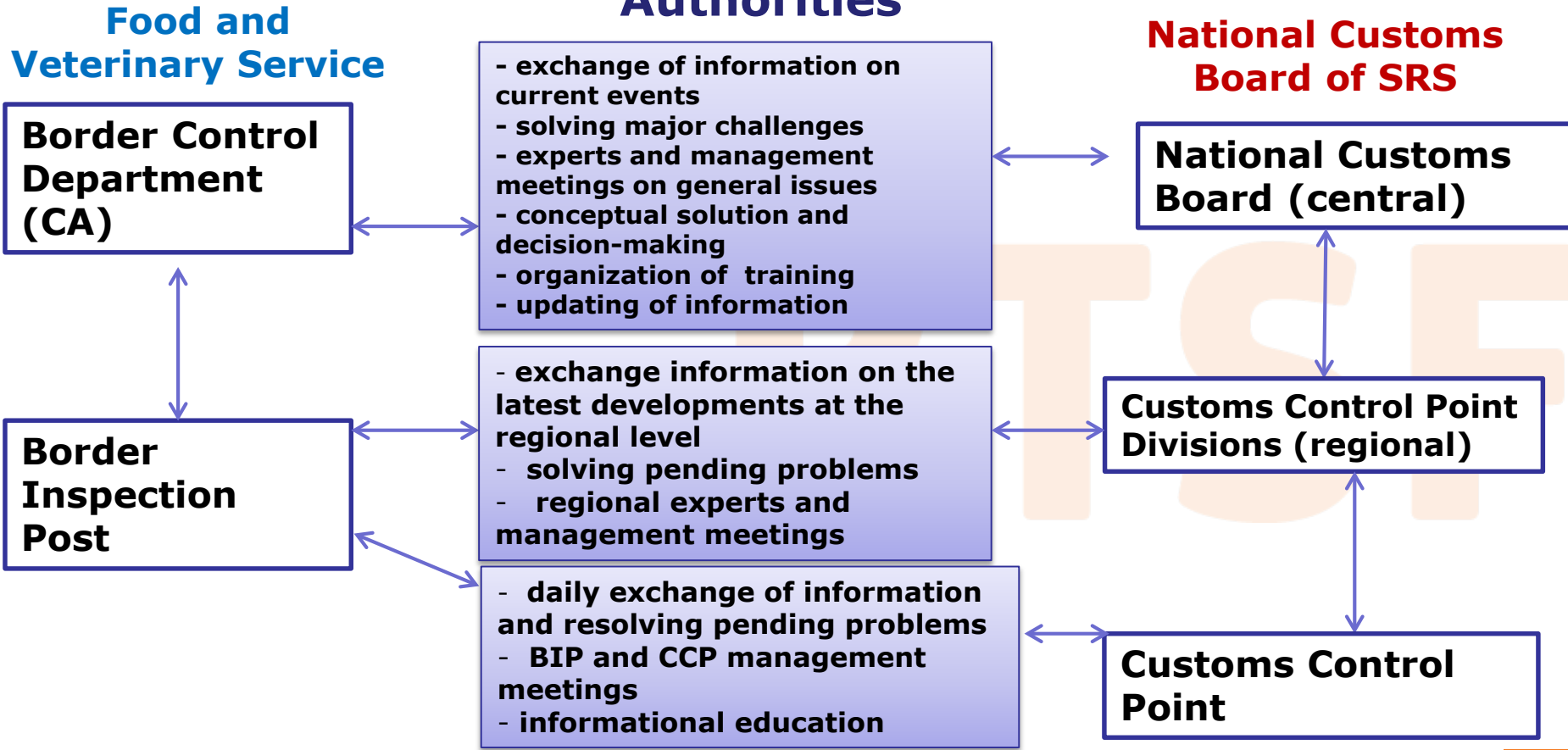
- daily exchange of information and resolving pending problems
- BIP and CCP management meetings
- informational education

National Customs Board of SRS

**National Customs
Board (central)**

**Customs Control Point
Divisions (regional)**

**Customs Control
Point**



Meetings

- Quarterly Meetings with Border guards, Police and FVS at the regional levels.

Meeting notes are available also in the webpage <http://www.rs.gov.lv/>




Rules enforcement (1)

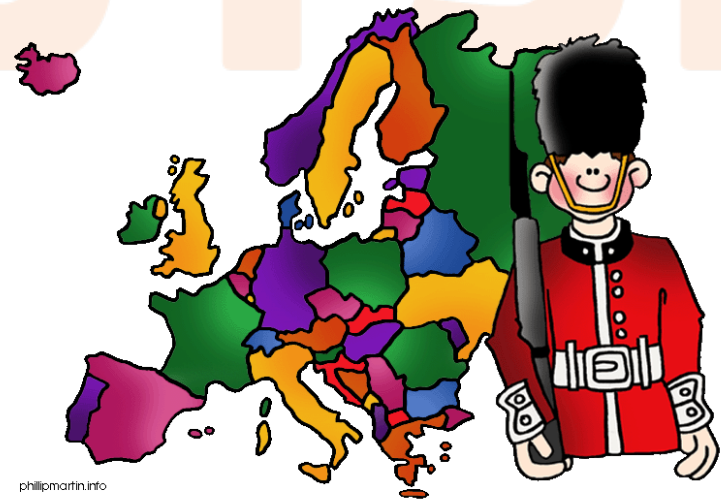
Enforcing the rules governing the introduction of personal consignments of meat, milk or their products is vital. Provisions include:

 The organization of **controls** at EU entry points to detect the presence of illegal consignments of meat, milk or their products


Rules enforcement (2)

 Mechanisms used to identify illegal personal consignments of meat and dairy products:

- mainly randomized searches,
- targeted customs searches,
- scanning equipment,
- but also in some Member States, detector dogs are used.



Rules enforcement (3)

 Where necessary, the deployment of **appropriate detection aids** such as scanning equipment and detector dogs to screen large quantities of baggage

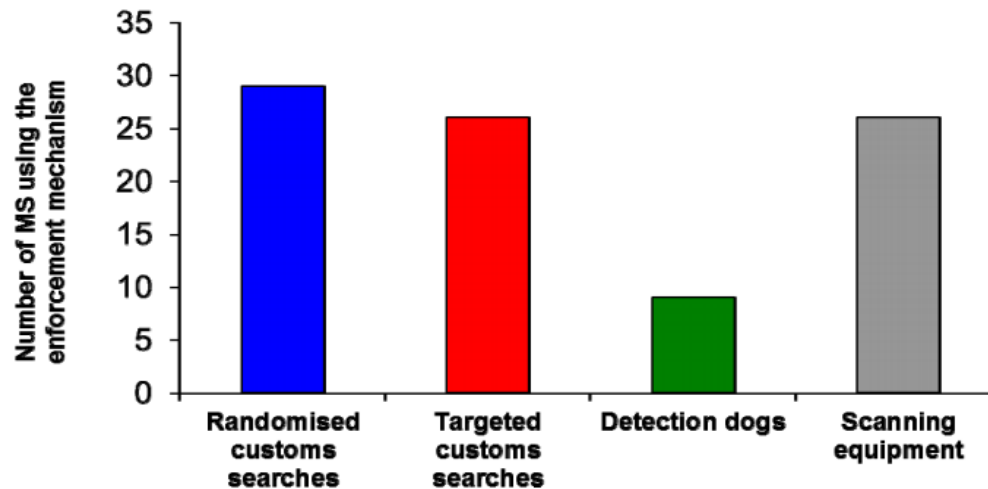


Figure 9: Mechanisms used to identify illegal meat and dairy products consignments in 2011

Rules enforcement (4)

The **seizure and destruction** of personal consignments that are found to be in breach of the rules



Rules enforcement (5)

Mechanisms to ensure that those responsible for illegal consignments may be liable for costs or **penalties**



Administrative Violations - results

Latvian
Administrative
Violations Code
Section 108.⁵

The administrative liability for violation of requirements on the introduction of products of animal origin for personal human consumption - a warning with the confiscation of the products;

In 2015 – 3 cases:

- canned meat, 1,96 kg (RU)
- canned meat, 1,19 kg (RU)
- canned meat (turkey, beef), 2 kg (RU)

2x = from 7 EUR to 70EUR + confiscating products

ASF sources - the spread of disease

with:

- ➔ meat, meat products and food waste (up to 85% of cases),
- ➔ live pigs (up to 14% of cases),
- ➔ contaminated transport (up to 1% of cases)

The international airports, ports and railway stations are at risk.

Thank you
for your
attention!





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