

Rules and Regulations

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Food Safety and Inspection Service

9 CFR Part 424

[Docket No. FSIS-2025-0017]

RIN 0583-AE07

Removal of Pumped Bacon Sampling Regulations

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: FSIS is amending the Federal meat inspection regulations to remove the provisions providing for FSIS' sampling and testing of pumped bacon for nitrosamines. FSIS stopped sampling for nitrosamines in 1998.

DATES: The final rule is effective on July 1, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Denise Eblen, Acting Deputy Under Secretary for the Office of Food Safety, at (202) 205-0495 or docketclerk@usda.gov with a subject line of "Docket No. FSIS-2025-0017." Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In 1978, USDA codified provisions for an Agency sampling and testing program (hereinafter the "nitrosamine sampling program") for pumped bacon, consisting of analysis of the product for nitrosamines (43 FR 20992; May 16, 1978; 9 CFR 424.22(b)(1)(i) (previously 9 CFR 318.7(b)(2))). Test results also could be furnished by establishments (43 FR 32136; July 25, 1978). The Agency later provided alternative

procedures for controlling the levels of nitrite added to bacon (51 FR 21731; June 16, 1986) and, in doing so, modified sample selection procedures under the nitrosamine sampling program (9 CFR 424.22(b)(1)(ii)(C) (previously 9 CFR 318.7(b)(4))).

FSIS stopped collecting samples of pumped bacon under the nitrosamine sampling program on October 23, 1998, in part because the program identified very few samples of pumped bacon that contained confirmable levels of volatile nitrosamines. For example, FSIS conducted 174 initial screenings for nitrosamines in pumped bacon from 1994 to 1998. Of these, only 9 samples were presumptively positive for nitrosamines. Only one sample was confirmed positive.

The Agency also stopped administering the program in 1998 because the codified testing methods had become antiquated. The formation of nitrosamines in products depends on several factors, including the cooking method. The regulations provide that all testing for nitrosamines be made on pumped bacon fried at 340 °F for 3 minutes on each side (9 CFR 424.22(b)(1)(i)). However, since the regulations were implemented, greater variability in cooking methods for bacon (e.g., microwave cooking, oven cooking) and greater use of ready-to-eat bacon, meant the codified testing procedures did not necessarily reflect how consumers would actually prepare the product.

Additionally, the nitrosamine sampling program is no longer necessary, given other regulatory requirements control the formation of nitrosamines in pumped bacon. The use of nitrate or nitrite to cure pumped bacon can cause the formation of nitrosamines in the cooked product. As such, FSIS regulations prohibit the use of nitrate in such products and limit the amount of ingoing nitrite to 120 parts per million (9 CFR 424.21 and 9 CFR 424.22). The regulations also require the use of sodium ascorbate or sodium erythorbate in pumped bacon because these substances are curing accelerators and reduce the amount of residual nitrite in the finished product, thus reducing the likelihood of the formation of nitrosamines in the product. Inspectors can verify that establishments meet the requirements for the use of nitrate, nitrite, and curing

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accelerators without collecting samples for testing. Therefore, the nitrosamine testing program is no longer necessary.

Given FSIS ended its nitrosamines sampling program and can verify that establishments meet the requirements for pumped bacon through other means, the Agency is removing the program's implementing regulations at 9 CFR 424.22(b)(1)(i) and (ii)(C). This final rule is solely an administrative change to Agency procedure or practice related to its obsolete nitrosamine sampling program. It is therefore excluded from the requirement for notice and comment under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B)). FSIS regulations will continue to require the use of curing accelerators, prohibit the use of nitrate, and limit the use of nitrite in pumped bacon, which is consistent with FSIS' Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point requirements (9 CFR part 417), as well as the conditions set out in 9 CFR 424.21 and 424.22.

Executive Orders (E.O.s) 12866, 13563, 14215, and 14192

Executive Order (E.O.) 12866 provides that the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) in the Office of Management and Budget will determine whether a regulatory action is significant as defined by E.O. 12866 and will review significant regulatory actions. OIRA has determined that this final rule is not significant as defined by E.O. 12866. E.O. 13563 reaffirms the principles of E.O. 12866 while calling for improvements in the Nation's regulatory system to promote predictability, to reduce uncertainty, and to use the best, most innovative, and least burdensome tools for achieving regulatory ends. E.O. 14215 amends E.O. 12866 to ensure Presidential supervision and control of the entire executive branch and to require that all executive departments and agencies submit for review all proposed and final significant regulatory actions to OIRA before publication in the **Federal Register**. The Department has developed the final rule consistent with E.O. 13563 and E.O. 14215.

This final rule is considered an E.O. 14192 deregulatory action.

Congressional Review Act

Pursuant to Subtitle E of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (known as the

Congressional Review Act) (5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*), OIRA has designated this final rule as not a major rule as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

Regulatory Flexibility Act

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (5 U.S.C. 601–612) (as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) of 1996; Pub. L. 104–121, 110 Stat. 857), agencies must prepare and make available for public comment a regulatory flexibility analysis that describes the effect of the rule on small entities (*i.e.*, small businesses, small organizations, and small government jurisdictions). No regulatory flexibility analysis is required, however, if the head of an agency or an appropriate designee certifies that the rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. FSIS has concluded and hereby certifies that this final rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities; therefore, an analysis is not included. The final rule is an administrative change that merely updates the meat product inspection regulations to remove obsolete Agency sampling procedures and practices that have not been implemented since 1998. Because the final rule does not impose any new requirements or restrict production, it is not expected to have any adverse economic effect on small or very small establishments.

Executive Order 13175

Executive Order 13175 requires Federal agencies to consult and coordinate with Tribes on a government-to-government basis on policies that have Tribal implications, including regulations, legislative comments or proposed legislation, and other policy statements or actions that have substantial direct effects on one or more Indian Tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes. FSIS has assessed the impact of this final rule on Indian tribes and determined that this rule would not have tribal implications that require consultation under Executive Order 13175.

Paperwork Reduction Act

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), FSIS has reviewed the final rule. The Administrator has determined that this rulemaking would not impact

information collection, paperwork, or recordkeeping activities.

E-Government Act Compliance

The Department is committed to complying with the E-Government Act of 2002 to promote the use of the internet and other information technologies to provide increased opportunities for citizen access to Government information and services, and for other purposes.

E.O. 13132; Federalism Summary Impact Statement

The final rule has no effect on States and local governments; accordingly, FSIS anticipates that this rule will not have implications for federalism. Therefore, under Section 6(b) of the E.O., a federalism summary is not required.

Environmental Impact

This final rule will not have a reasonably foreseeable significant effect on the quality of the human environment. The rule is an administrative change that merely updates the meat product inspection regulations to remove obsolete Agency sampling procedures and practices that have not been implemented since 1998. Accordingly, this action is appropriately subject to the categorical exclusion from the preparation of an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement as authorized under 7 CFR 1b.4 of the USDA regulations.

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (*e.g.*, Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made

available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the FSIS web page located at: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>. FSIS also will make copies of this publication available through the FSIS *Constituent Update*, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The *Constituent Update* is available on the FSIS web page. Through the web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe>. Options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

Lists of Subjects in 9 CFR Part 424

Food additives, Food packaging, Meat inspection, Poultry and poultry products.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, FSIS is amending 9 CFR Chapter III as follows:

PART 424—PREPARATION AND PROCESSING OPERATIONS

- 1. The authority citation for part 424 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1633, 1901–1906; 21 U.S.C. 451–472, 601–695; 7 CFR 2.18, 2.53.

- 2. Amend § 424.22 by
 - a. Removing and reserving paragraph (b)(1)(i);
 - b. Revising paragraph (b)(1)(ii) introductory text; and
 - c. Removing paragraph (b)(1)(ii)(C).

The revision reads as follows:

§ 424.22 Certain other permitted uses.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(1) * * *

(ii) Sodium nitrite may be used at:

* * * * *

Done in Washington, DC.

Denise Eblen,

Acting Deputy Under Secretary for the Office of Food Safety.

[FR Doc. 2025-12212 Filed 6-30-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. FAA-2025-0475; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00600-T; Amendment 39-23069; AD 2025-13-03]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The FAA is adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all Airbus SAS Model A350-941 and –1041 airplanes. This AD was prompted by a determination that the applicable aircraft flight manual (AFM) was providing an incorrect value for maximum cumulative taxi time in freezing fog conditions. This AD requires revising the existing AFM to provide the flightcrew with normal procedures to follow under certain conditions. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD is effective August 5, 2025.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of August 5, 2025.

ADDRESSES:

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA-2025-0475; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email ADs@easa.europa.eu. You may find this material on the EASA website at ad.easa.europa.eu.

- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206-231-3195. It is also available at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA-2025-0475.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James Clary, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; telephone: 817-222-5138; email: james.clary@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 by adding an AD that would apply to all Airbus SAS Model A350-941 and –1041 airplanes. The NPRM was published in the **Federal Register** on March 26, 2025 (90 FR 13707). The NPRM was prompted by AD 2024-0190, dated October 10, 2024; corrected October 11, 2024, issued by EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union (EASA AD 2024-0190) (also referred to as “the MCAI”). The MCAI states the applicable AFM was providing an incorrect value for maximum

cumulative taxi time in freezing fog conditions, which could lead to multiple engine surges in a critical flight phase and possibly result in loss of control of the airplane.

In the NPRM, the FAA proposed to require revising the existing AFM to provide the flightcrew with normal procedures to follow under certain conditions, as specified in EASA AD 2024-0190. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA-2025-0475.

Discussion of Final Airworthiness Directive**Comments**

The FAA received one comment from the Air Line Pilots Association, International, who supported the NPRM without change.

Conclusion

These products have been approved by the civil aviation authority of another country and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA’s bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, that authority has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA reviewed the relevant data, considered any comments received, and determined that air safety requires adopting this AD as proposed. Accordingly, the FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on this product. This AD is adopted as proposed in the NPRM.

Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed EASA AD 2024-0190, which specifies procedures for an AFM amendment to correct the maximum cumulative taxi time in freezing fog conditions. This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 32 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this AD: