



Key challenges faced by the seafood industry in Asia

Perspective

- It goes without saying that the growth in the global fish production is primarily driven by the the aquaculture sector
- Asia remains the main drive to this growth
- Asia also remains the key supplying source to major markets
- The region however continues to face challenges in access to the major developed markets

EU-IUU Certification

- Delay in obtaining catch certificate from the flag states
 - unable to know source of raw material – sometimes up to 1 - 6 months(Thailand & Philippines)
- Quality of the product to be exported is affected due to the delay and also causes demurrage
- Request for verification by BIP (Border Inspection Post) should be sent directly to concerned issuing authority
- Strengthening flag state co-operation

Rising Costs

- High cost of production
- Cost of fuel, fishing gears etc
- Cost of skilled labor
- Cost of quality testing
- Expensive certification charges of implementation & maintenance e.g.: BRC / IFS
- Cost of machinery & equipment
- Cost of other imports e.g.: Packing Material
- Cost of freight

Disease Problems

- EMS which affected the shrimp industry pulling down production to almost half - 250 000 tons
- Although it is under control, this has affected Thailand's share of the market

Post-harvest Losses Still Exists to a Certain Extent

1. Poor on-board handling and storage
2. Poor hygienic practice (fishermen/harvesters)
3. Insufficient quantity/ inferior quality of ice
4. Poor handling at landing centres
5. Lack of storage facilities
6. Improper transportation to the whole sale markets or processing units
7. Poor handling in whole sale and local markets
8. Poor handling in processing units

Testing for BPA by the EU

- There has been news about testing for this chemical for canned tuna imports into the EU
- What's status of this? Is it to be implemented?