

CSI Responsibilities for Verifying Compliance with 9 CFR Part 430.4

You must be familiar with the establishment products and processes that must comply with Part 430.4 in order to verify compliance. If necessary, you can ask establishment management whether they produce any RTE product that is exposed to the environment after the initial lethality step. The establishment is required to comply with Part 430.4 if the RTE products produced are exposed to the environment after the lethality step. The establishment is **not** required to comply with Part 430.4 if the RTE products produced are **not exposed** to the environment after the lethality step.

Examples

- Beef jerky exposed to the environment before packaging
 - Required to comply with Part 430, must choose one of the 3 alternatives
- Country Cured Ham, sliced and film wrapped in retail packages
 - Required to comply with Part 430, must choose one of the 3 alternatives
- Summer Sausage, cooked in impervious casings which is not removed prior to packing
 - Not required to comply with Part 430
- Canned Chicken, hermetically sealed commercially sterile shelf-stable product
 - Not required to comply with Part 430

If the establishment is producing post-lethality exposed products, you should ask the establishment management which alternative they have chosen for each post-lethality exposed RTE product. You should inform them that, as set out in §430.4(c)(7), verification results that demonstrate the effectiveness of the measures they employ are to be made available upon request.

You should verify that the establishment is meeting the requirements of the alternative that it has chosen. Use the appropriate 01(SSOP) or 03(HACCP) procedure, for example, 03F01/02 for heat treated, shelf-stable RTE products. If the establishment decides to produce different products using different alternatives, you should verify that they meet the requirements for **each** of the alternatives selected, for **each** of the post-lethality exposed RTE products.

Note: If an establishment is producing post-lethality exposed products and has failed to attempt to meet the requirements of **any** of the alternatives, you should contact the District Office for the issuance of an NOIE.