THE AFGC PRODUCT INFORMATION FORM (PIF™ V6.0)

A F G C
Authorised
Food Data
S y s t e m®

OVERVIEW

The AFGC Product Information Form V6.0 (PIF™ V6.0, "the ePIF") is a web-based information management tool developed by the AFGC to assist food companies obtain and share product information needed to comply with Australia and New Zealand food regulations, industry codes, and customer product specifications in a consistent, standardised manner. PIF V6.0 manages information in a readily exchangeable secure, electronic format. It supersedes and expands upon the earlier MS-Excel-based PIF v5 document.

FEATURES OF THE PIF V6.0

1. **On – line functionality** - Companies create, store, edit and exchange the PIF V6.0 between businesses through on-line portals. Portals are offered through three (3) companies (Authorised Vendors) licensed by the AFGC, which retains ownership and control of the 'content' of the PIF V6.0.

2. **Inter-operability** - with other internal and external IT systems through utilising standardised information exchange protocols, to facilitate adoption and use by companies.

3. **System security** – provided by cloud-based storage and access control based on authorities and permission hierarchies.

4. **Flexibility** – four types of PIF are offered within a portal:

   - *Samples* – for new product development and showcasing product prototypes

   - *Flavours* – reflecting the limited data set required for these types of products

   - *Ingredients* – providing downstream customers information to assist them to meet the regulatory requirements of finished products, and

   - *Retail Ready products* – securing information assisting with regulatory compliance and integrity of consumer ready products.

5. Content rich – the PIF V6.0 retains and builds upon PIF v5 and includes information to support:

- Ingredient declaration breakdown
- Country of Origin
- Allergen and food safety declarations – ANZ and International allergens and information to support VITAL®
- Pre-market clearance – GM and Novel foods
- Quarantine and biosecurity
- Nutrition information
- Nutrition, health and related claims

- Voluntary front of pack labelling - Health Star Rating and the Daily Intake Guide
- Certification and endorsement information
- Shelf life specifications
- Traceability information
- Measurement marking
- Potential safety hazards, and
- Packaging information.

BENEFITS of the PIF V6

1. Business Efficiencies – once entered, information can be securely shared and transmitted between company operations and to business partners.

2. Information Integrity – minimal data entry requirements through reducing duplication by re-entering data and so the chance of errors.

3. One true source of data – combined data entry, data storage, data access and data exchange reduce business risk and increases confidence across operations.

4. Better Information Sharing – with customers and the market through controlled data exchange and sourcing including to consumer-facing company supported websites.

THE PIF V6 SYSTEM
The Portal System
The PIF V6.0 system is supported by three PIF Authorised Vendors, all with an established presence in the Australian market - Bizcaps Software, Oak Barrel Software and Hamilton Grant. The Vendors offer on-line portals for PIF V.0 6 creation and storage based on AFGC specifications. PIFs are created online through portals which include cloud-based storage and PIF exchange functions.

System Requirements
Portals are accessed via standard web-browsers. There are no additional system or software requirements. Exchange of cloud based PIF information with company IT systems is straight forward but will require some IT expertise. Vendors are well-place to offer technical advice on integrating the PIF V6.0 system with company IT systems and can provide staff training to assist them to use and take advantage of the extensive functionality of the new PIF V6.0 system. A PIF v5 to PIF V6 conversion tool is available to assist implementation of the new system.

User Support
A PIF User Guide, fact sheets and frequently asked questions (FAQs) are all available from the AFGC website **https://www.afgc.org.au/industry-resources/product-information-form-version-6**
This material will be updated as the PIF V6.0 is updated.

More information
The latest information on the PIF is available from the AFGC website
https://www.afgc.org.au/industry-resources/product-information-form-version-6
or by sending an email to PIF@afgc.org.au.