



# Responsible fishing

Ensuring responsible fishing and fishery management

## BUSINESS CHALLENGE

The consumption of seafood throughout the world is rising with over 75% of fish species caught being fully or over-exploited (according to a report by the FAO\* in 2005). The demand for fish meal and fish oil is equally increasing the pressure on marine resources while fish farming is developing and intensifying to the detriment of ecosystems and the environment. In this context, the FAO has defined two measures: the code of conduct for responsible fishing and fish farming (1995), and the FAO guidelines for Ecolabeling of fish and fishery products from Marine capture fisheries (COFI 2005). The objective is to differentiate seafood products which come from responsible food chain. To meet the demands of consumers and retailers today, suppliers now have to prove not only the quality and safety of their products, but also that they respect the environment, invest in sustainable management of fishing resources and respect the social laws and security for crew in their industry.



## SOLUTION

### What is responsible fishing?

Responsible fishing aims at ensuring responsible fishing practices. Bureau Veritas proposes several responsible fishing processes adapted to the needs of its clients. These solutions are centered around six areas of responsibility:

- **Marine resources:** improving selectivity and stock control, reducing waste of by-catch, maintaining the ecosystem
- **Environment:** saving energy, limiting pollution, sea spillages and loss of gear.
- **Food safety:** ensuring seafood product safety in board and in the seafood chain.
- **Crew:** improving workplace safety and well-being, increasing awareness of social regulations.
- **Quality:** guaranteeing product and process quality, and traceability/origin for clear responsibility at each step.
- **Local development** and equitable share.

### What are the key benefits?

- Increasing consumer confidence
- Ensuring better access to your markets through strong differentiation
- Increasing employee loyalty
- Protecting marine resources
- Improving your brand image

## WHY CHOOSE BUREAU VERITAS?

**Seafood Expertise** ■ Bureau Veritas can help every player in the seafood supply chain to meet the highest standards of Quality, Health & Safety, Environmental and social responsibility compliance.

Bureau Veritas is part of the preferred suppliers of: Auchan, Carrefour, Champion, Casino, Eroski, Metro, Système U, as seafood supply chain expert. Bureau Veritas is also one of the major players to provide complete marine services to ship owners.

**Network** ■ A global presence in more than 100 countries means clients benefit from both international expertise and in-depth knowledge of local standards.

**Mark of global recognition** ■ The "Bureau Veritas inspection" mark is a globally recognized symbol of your organization's ongoing commitment to excellence, sustainability and reliability.



## RELATED SERVICES

In addition to Responsible fishing, Bureau Veritas can help you comply with a wide range of standards and norms including:

- BRC
- IFS
- ISO 22000 (food safety)
- EurepGAP
- ISO 9001
- ISO 14001
- SA 8000
- Ethical audit (SMETA)
- Shipping vessel classification (international Bureau Veritas register)
- SOLAS
- MARPOL
- National Flag Regulation

\*FAO: Food and Agricultural Organization



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Move Forward with Confidence

## OUR APPROACH

We take a four-step approach:

- **Phase A (optional)** is the initial phase and involves carrying out a **feasibility study** to define the scope of the project (species, fishing zone, state of resources). This is followed by the development of specifications plus a system of reference.
- **Phase B** involves **validating the reference system and external inspection – testing plan** by a committee of experts.
- **Phase C** includes the initial audit of Bureau Veritas recognition or certification if applicable.
- **Phase D** is the annual follow-up program, regular assignments carried out by Bureau Veritas to ensure the continuity and quality of measures put in place.

Responsible fishing

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## FAQ

### Which “responsible fishing” seal should I use?

Different tools exist and can apply to your objectives, both external (market, administration) and/or internal (investors, social issues). This topic could be reviewed during the feasibility study.

### What scope of certification should I choose: fishery, fishing company, seafood chain?

The scope is defined in the feasibility study according to your objectives and the assets of your production zone.

### Which international standardization covers the “responsible fishing” seal?

The FAO defined voluntary guidelines, named ecolabeling fish and fishery products (March 2005). It recommends that each “ecological seal” is linked:

- to a set of specifications (with measurable and controllable criteria). This standard must be officially approved.
- to a control procedure by an accredited certification body.

The European Commission is currently developing guidelines for responsible fishing certification in order to ensure the accuracy of the different initiatives (quality of references, control plans and certification bodies).

### Which system should I implement to put a “responsible fishing” seal on my products ?

To prove the traceability of fish from responsible fishing, chain of custody must be evaluated in conformity with an annual control plan.

## CASE STUDY

**Scapêche** a subsidiary of the French supermarket chain Intermarché, is a fleet of fishing boats that fish in French territories in the Atlantic, Austral and Antarctic oceans. Its sailors fish, process and freeze seafood designated for general consumption in Europe, Asia-Pacific and America.

### Business challenge

- Assure the U.S. market that its Patagonian toothfish fishing practices are ethical and legal
- Build a sustainable development plan for the fish, environment and employees
- Create concrete guidelines for responsible toothfish fishing

### Solution

- Partner with a global third-party inspection body with expertise in seafood sector and marine industry.
- Develop a concrete set of measurement criteria specific to toothfish industry
- Perform regular audits by third-party inspection body
- Establish guidelines to bring Scapêche well above the expected level for its responsibility to the fish, the environment and its employees

### Benefits

- Confidence in Scapêche’s fishing methods and high product quality for the American market
- Increased employee loyalty
- A secure future for the toothfish industry

## CONTACT

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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