

Any one of the various bills of lading should be consigned to the Mexican importer or customs broker. Although each carrier will have particular forms, the bill of lading should show the quantity of shipments, the types of packages making up the shipment, weight and measurements, as well as marks. It will also customarily include the name, type and address of shipper, name and address of the Mexican importer, consignee or customs broker, port of origin and port of destination, description of the goods, listing of freight and other charges, number of bills of lading in the full set and date and signature of the carrier's official acknowledging receipt on board of the goods for shipment. The information on the bills of lading should correspond with that shown on the invoice and the packing list.

#### 4. SPECIAL CERTIFICATES

Different types of sanitary certificates are required by the Secretariat of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources (Secretaría de Agricultura y Recursos Hidráulicos SARH) on shipments of livestock or animal products, and for most seeds, plant and plant products. A phytosanitary certificate is often, but not always, the only document required for shipments of seeds and certain plants. However, in the case of livestock shipments, requirements may include an official health statement issued by the veterinarian, legalized by the Mexican consulate (see Appendix 5), including information on absence of certain diseases, vaccines, insemination, quarantines, etc. and specific requirements on identification of livestock shipped (see Appendix 2). Many agricultural and food products also require a certificate of origin. Most of these do not need to be legalized.

All foodstuffs, beverages and similar products for public consumption, as well as drugs, toilet and beauty preparations, soaps and cleaners need to be registered, under the food regulations and/or the health regulations, with the Secretariat of Health (Secretaría de Salud SS) prior to importation. In order to obtain the authorization from the SS, the importer needs to fill out two completed forms and meet the following requirements (see Appendix 3): letter of representation from the exporter granting the representation to the importer legalized by a Mexican Consul; sanitary license number and the line handled by the importer's warehouse; formula of the product on the exporter's letterhead; physical, chemical and microbiological analysis provided by a credited laboratory in the exporting country; free sale certificate prepared by a sanitary authority in the exporting country; packaging description, including original label and label for distribution in Mexico. The labelling of every registered product will carry the legend "Reg. S.S.A. No...", as well as the name of the exporter, product origin and the name and address of the Mexican importer/representative/distributor, as well as any other notices required by the Mexican authorities. The registration number is