

## A Victorian dairy licence - your passport to operate...



# Dairy Distributor:

A dairy distributor is defined by the *Dairy Act 2000* to mean *the owner of any dairy distribution premises*. Furthermore, a dairy distribution premises means any premises where packaged dairy food is sold or distributed other than -

- (a) dairy manufacturing premises; or
- (b) premises used only for retail purposes

Dairy food means -

- (a) milk and liquid milk products;
- (b) dried milk and dried milk products;
- (c) condensed milks;
- (d) cream and cream products;
- (e) butter, butter products, dairy blend and dairy spreads;
- (f) cheese and cheese products;
- (g) yoghurt and yoghurt products;
- (h) ice cream, reduced fat ice cream and low fat ice cream;
- (i) colostrum and products derived from colostrum
- (j) any other product or class of products declared by a determination to be dairy food

Furthermore, the *Dairy Act 2000* details the responsibilities associated with operating as a dairy distributor and the powers of Dairy Food Safety Victoria.

## Summary of Licensing Requirements for a Dairy Distributor

Prior to commencing operations as a dairy distributor the following **must** be completed and submitted to Dairy Food Safety Victoria:

- ✚ a licence application form (submitted with a \$161.00 lodgement fee);
- ✚ the licence fee paid in full; and
- ✚ a Food Safety Program

A dairy distributor is required to meet the requirements detailed in the *Code of Practice for Dairy Food Safety* (The *Code of Practice*). The *Code of Practice* sets the minimum mandatory standards for the production, manufacture, storage and transport of milk and dairy foods to safeguard public health and must be used by all dairy premises in conjunction with the *Food Standards Code*. This includes the requirement for a dairy distributor to have a Food Safety Program addressing all the requirements in the *Code of Practice*.

All dairy distributors in Victoria are to have a documented food safety program in place as a prerequisite for the issue of a licence. Distributors who are part of a dairy manufacturing company may adopt the food safety programs developed by that company. These programs may be incorporated into existing quality assurance programs, with these programs being submitted to Dairy Food Safety Victoria for approval. Following approval, Dairy Food Safety Victoria may conduct regular validation and verification audits of the food safety programs.

The *Code of Practice for Dairy Food Safety* is available at [www.dairysafe.vic.gov.au](http://www.dairysafe.vic.gov.au).