

## **Chile**

### **Overview**

Chile's growing export industrial base and expanding presence in the region has proven to be the reason why general policy for defining technical regulation has increased to comply with international standards. Chilean standard guidelines follow those of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade.

In situations where required standards do not exist, the general policy is to turn to Chile's largest trading partners, including the European Union and the United States, in order to determine what are the generally accepted norms being implemented around the world.

The "Instituto Nacional de Normalización" or National Standards Institute (INN) is the institution that is responsible for overseeing and developing the use of technical regulations in standardization and accreditation in Chile. Chile's INN is the institution that fosters and develops the use of standards in Chile in three areas: standardization, accreditation and metrology. All the important and high profile standards cases are handled through the INN and its respective government offices. Certification is done only through accredited institutions. The accrediting institutions may have private, public, national and even international origin. As an example of this, the INN has accredited the U.S.-based Underwriters Laboratories (UL) to issue product certification.

Other factors influencing local policy in standardization are mentioned in chapter seven of the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the U.S. and Chile. The FTA addresses technical barriers to trade and calls on both countries to intensify their work in the field of standards, technical regulations, and conformity assessment procedures. This facilitates access to each other's markets as well.

Both countries have agreed to identify bilateral initiatives that are appropriate for particular issues or sectors. Such initiatives include cooperation on regulatory issues, such as the equivalence of technical regulations and standards aligned with international standards. The reliance on a supplier's declaration of conformity, and the use of accreditation to qualify conformity assessment are also observed. Each country is also required to participate in the development of standards, technical regulations, and conformity assessment procedures. Chile's INN already interacts with several standards institutions from around the world, including the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM International).

### **Standards Organizations**

In Chile, there are no standards associations like those found in the United States. The only organization charged with developing standards in Chile is the INN. Its web site is [www.inn.cl](http://www.inn.cl). Its long-term plan for the development of standards is aligned to Chile's chief export sectors. These include copper, forestry, agro-products in general, and the wine industry.

#### **NIST Notify U.S. Service**

Member countries of the World Trade Organization (WTO) are required under the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement) to report to the WTO all proposed technical regulations that could affect trade with other member countries. Notify U.S. is a free, web-based e-mail subscription service that offers an opportunity to review and comment on proposed foreign technical regulations that can affect access to international markets. Register online at Internet URL: <http://www.nist.gov/notifyus/>

## **Conformity Assessment**

The most important national testing organizations are grouped under the following categories.

- 1) Testing laboratories
- 2) System Quality Auditors
- 3) Inspection organizations
- 4) Product certification
- 5) Calibration laboratories
- 6) Quality Management Systems (QMS)
- 7) Environmental Management Systems (EMS)

A few of the locally accredited organizations are mentioned below. A complete list of accredited testing organizations under each category can be found at <http://www3.inn.cl/acreditacion/organismos/portada/index.php> under the DIRECTORIO DE ACREDITADOS.

### **CESMEC Ltda. (Chile),**

División Certificación / ISO9000 [www.cesmec.cl](http://www.cesmec.cl)

Av. Marathon 2595 Macúl, Santiago

(56 2) 350-2100

### **DICTUC S.A., (Chile) [www.dictuc.cl](http://www.dictuc.cl)**

Av. Vicuña Mackenna 4860 Macúl, Santiago

(56 2) 354-4886

### **Fundación Chile (Chile) [www.fundacionchile.cl](http://www.fundacionchile.cl)**

Av. Parque Antonio Rabat Sur 6165 Vitacura, Santiago

(56 2) 240-0300

### **Bureau Veritas S.A. (France) [www.bureauveritas.cl](http://www.bureauveritas.cl)**

Av. Marathon 2595 Macul, Santiago

(56 2) 485-9000

**ISP (Instituto de Salud Pública de Chile) [www.ispch.cl](http://www.ispch.cl)**

Av. Marathon 1000 Nuñoa, Santiago

(56 2) 575-5101

**ICONTEC (Colombia) / ISO 9000**

[www.icontec.org.co](http://www.icontec.org.co)

Augusto Leguía Norte 100, Of. 306 Las Condes, Santiago

(56 2) 657-8907

**SAG (Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero) (Chile) [www.sag.cl](http://www.sag.cl)**

Av. Bulnes 140, Piso 8 Santiago Centro, Santiago

(56 2) 345-1101

**SGS-Chile Ltda. [www.cl.sgs.com](http://www.cl.sgs.com)**

Ignacio Valdivieso 2409 San Joaquín, Santiago

(56 2) 898-9500

**Corthorn Quality (Chile) [www.corthorn.cl](http://www.corthorn.cl)**

Palacio Riesco 4549 Huechuraba, Santiago

(56 2) 580-8000

**Product Certification**

In most sectors, standards are not mandatory in Chile, but companies can voluntarily comply with them, especially in industries where such compliance constitutes a kind of “seal of approval.” However, certain imported products, such as those related to industrial safety, building and construction materials, and the gas and electricity industries, must comply with the specific requirements of the supervising entity. For example, there are specific regulations pertaining to the seismic resistance of new construction. The INN is also promoting ISO 14000 and ISO 9000 standards among local manufacturers. The chemical industry is an example of one industry that has incorporated ISO 9000 standards into its industrial processes.

For agricultural products, the U.S.-Chile FTA includes an agreement on red meat grading standards, which now allows U.S. boneless red meat products to be sold in the Chilean market according to U.S. standards.

**Accreditation**

A complete list of accredited testing organizations under each category can be found at [www3.inn.cl/acreditacion/portada/index.php](http://www3.inn.cl/acreditacion/portada/index.php) under the heading DIRECTORIO DE ACREDITADOS.

## **Publication of Technical Regulations**

The name of Chile's government bulletin is the "Diario Oficial". Once regulations are approved by the INN, and officially accepted by Chile's central government, they are published in the "Diario Oficial" and only those approved are published. Proposed regulations are never published in the "Diario Oficial".

Regulations currently under discussion, a schedule of upcoming standards development committee meetings and a forum for public comment are available on the INN web page at [www.inn.cl/pags/normalizacion/index.html](http://www.inn.cl/pags/normalizacion/index.html).

Any institution, private or public, may request the services of the INN for the development of a standard in accordance with most procedures. Moreover, institutions and company representatives can be active participants in the committee that is created when defining a certain standard. U.S. company representatives have, in fact, participated in such study discussions. The application request is available on-line.

## **Labeling and Marking**

As described previously in this section, Chile has fairly common labeling requirements for imported products. Among the most important requirements for U.S. exporters is that labeling must be in Spanish and measurements must be metric. In addition, consumer products must display the country of origin before being sold in Chile. Packaged goods must be marked to show the quality, purity, ingredients or mixtures, and the net weight or measure of the contents.

There are also specific requirements for canned food, shoes, foods, electric machinery, liquid and compressed natural gas equipment (LNG and CNG), plastics, wines and alcoholic beverages, textiles and apparel, wheat flour, detergents and insecticides for agricultural use.

Canned or packaged foodstuffs imported into Chile must bear labels in Spanish for all ingredients, including additives, manufacturing and expiration dates of the products, and the name of the producer or importer. All sizes and weights of the net contents also must be converted to the metric system. Goods not complying with these requirements may be imported but not sold to consumers until the conversion is made. Thus, foodstuffs labeled in English have to be re-labeled in Chile before they can be sold. For information on Chile's labeling requirements for food, see the Foreign Agricultural Service's Food and Agricultural Import Regulations at [www.usdachile.cl](http://www.usdachile.cl).

## **Contacts**

The Standards Liaison at the U.S. Embassy in Santiago is Ms. Claudia Melkonian, Phone: +56-2-330-3312; Fax: +56-2-330-3172; E-Mail: [claudia.melkonian@trade.gov](mailto:claudia.melkonian@trade.gov); web site: <http://export.gov/chile/en>

INN, Head of Standards Division is Ms. Claudia Cerda. Phone: +56-2-445-8870; E-Mail: [claudia.cerda@inn.cl](mailto:claudia.cerda@inn.cl); website [www.inn.cl](http://www.inn.cl).

The Government of Chile's Contact Point for WTO Technical Barriers to Trade is Mr. Jorge Soto, Head of the Department of International Trade, Ministry of Economy, Ministerio de Economía, Phone: +56-2-473-3441; Email: [jsoto@economia.cl](mailto:jsoto@economia.cl); web site [www.economia.cl](http://www.economia.cl).

## **Trade Agreements**

Chile has 57 Trade Agreements and the government of Chile is continually negotiating agreements with many other countries. Chile has 20 Free Trade Agreements with Japan, China, EFTA, Panama, Central America (which counts as 5 FTAs - Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Nicaragua), Canada, the United States, Mexico, Ecuador, Perú, Colombia, Turkey, South Korea, P4 (which counts as one FTA and encompasses New Zealand, Australia, Brunei, and Singapore), and the European Union. Chile is currently negotiating FTAs with Thailand and Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP), and has pending Chilean Congress FTA ratifications for Malaysia and Vietnam.

Chile has numerous other trade agreements, known as “acuerdos de complementación económica” (ACE) or Complementary Economic Agreements. Chile has signed ACEs with Bolivia, Mercosur, Venezuela, and Cuba.

Chile is member of the following Multilateral organizations: WTO, APEC, OECD, OMPI, and “Pathways to Prosperity”.

This network of trade agreements has significantly improved market access for Chilean products and exports. Chile sends roughly 30% of its exports to Asia, 25% to the European Union, 20% to NAFTA countries, and the rest to Latin American and other markets. For more information on Chile’s trade agreements, see [www.direcon.cl](http://www.direcon.cl).

## **Web Resources**

U.S. Government: [www.export.gov](http://www.export.gov)

U.S. Commercial Service Santiago: [www.buyusa.gov/chile/en](http://www.buyusa.gov/chile/en)

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service: [www.fas.usda.gov](http://www.fas.usda.gov)

U.S. Embassy Santiago: <http://chile.usembassy.gov/>

U.S. Government information on exports controls: [www.export.gov/exportcontrols.html](http://www.export.gov/exportcontrols.html)

Government of Chile: [www.gobiernodechile.cl](http://www.gobiernodechile.cl)

Ministry of the Economy: [www.economia.cl](http://www.economia.cl)

Standards Development Organization: [www.inn.cl](http://www.inn.cl)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Economic Directorate): [www.direcon.cl](http://www.direcon.cl)

Customs Service: [www.aduana.cl](http://www.aduana.cl)

Institute of Public Health: [www.ispch.cl](http://www.ispch.cl)

Agriculture and Livestock Service: [www.sag.cl](http://www.sag.cl)