

MEDIA RELEASE

Three companies fined for food safety lapses

Three companies were fined in Court for food safety lapses today:

- (i) Lee Peng Hwa, sole proprietor of LPH Catering, was fined \$12,000 for multiple food safety lapses committed under the Sale of Food (Non-Retail Food Business) Regulations.
- (ii) Alternative Selection Pte Ltd, a food processing company and food retailer, was fined \$6,400 for tampering with expiry date markings on prepacked food products.
- (iii) Go Go Foods Singapore Pte Ltd, a licensed food importer, was fined \$3,500 for operating an unlicensed cold store. Its director, Yatagawa Koichi, was also fined \$3,500 for failing to prevent the offence from being committed.

Sole proprietor of LPH Catering fined \$12,000 for multiple food safety lapses

- In May 2023, the Ministry of Health (MOH) and Singapore Food Agency (SFA) received reports of gastroenteritis involving 57 individuals after consuming food prepared by LPH Catering located at 4008 Depot Lane, #01-88, Singapore 109762. None of them were hospitalised.
- 3 MOH and SFA conducted a joint investigation at its premises and found multiple food safety lapses such as improper thawing of meat, non-separation of chopping boards for raw and cooked food, and a dirty ice machine.





Some lapses found at LPH Catering included improper thawing of meat and having a dirty ice machine (Photos by SFA)

Food safety is a joint responsibility as food can be contaminated anywhere along the food chain. While SFA continues to be vigilant and works to ensure that regulatory measures are in place and properly enforced, the industry and consumers must also play their part. Food establishments should ensure their premises are clean and well-maintained, as well as adhere to proper food hygiene and food safety requirements. SFA will take enforcement action against food operators who do not adhere to food safety regulations. Offenders are liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$100 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction.



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Alternative Selection Pte Ltd fined \$6,400 for tampering with expiry date markings on prepacked food

In April 2022, SFA officers conducted an inspection at the premises of Alternative Selection Pte Ltd and found various prepacked food products with tampered and extended date markings, including those which had already expired. All implicated food products were seized and disposed.



Seized products from Alternative Selection Pte Ltd (Photo by SFA)

Under the Food Regulations, no person shall remove, erase, alter, obscure, superimpose or in any way tamper with any date mark on any prepacked food. Offenders shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000, and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$2,000.

Go Go Foods Singapore Pte Ltd and its Director fined \$3,500 each for operating an unlicensed cold store

On 5 June 2023, SFA officers inspected the premises of Go Go Foods Singapore Pte Ltd and found assorted meat and seafood products (e.g. beef, unagi, crabmeat) stored in chest freezers and chillers. The premises is not licensed as a cold store. Approximately 1580 kg of meat and seafood products were seized.





Frozen meat and seafood products stored in unlicensed cold store by Go Go Foods Singapore Pte Ltd (Photos by SFA)



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- Storage of meat and seafood at unlicensed facilities poses a food safety risk. In Singapore, all storage facilities for meat and/or seafood products must be licensed and are required to meet SFA's requirements and food safety standards. SFA routinely inspects these licensed premises to ensure compliance. Offenders found to be possessing any meat or seafood products which has been kept in unlicensed cold stores for the purpose of selling or supplying are liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$50,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years, and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years.
- 9 Members of the public who come across poor hygiene practices in food establishments are advised not to patronise them and provide feedback to SFA. Those who come across illegal activities are also encouraged to provide feedback via our online feedback form (www.sfa.gov.sg/feedback) or our SFA Contact Centre at 6805 2871 with details for our follow-up investigations.

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