



Australian Federation  
of Islamic Councils

# **AFIC encourages Halal consumers to be vigilant with respect to Halal certified products**

Media Statement

4 November 2020

Today's report in the Australian newspaper shows that certain businesses are using Halal certification in a manner that is not Halal.

Over the years, we have seen some businesses using a Halal logo without being Halal. For this reason, strict Halal standards were developed for both the domestic and international markets.

The current standards require a team of auditors that combines a food quality and hygiene expert and a suitably qualified Sharia expert to conduct the audit and to advise the clients of the required setup to ensure that their products remain Halal.

Reputed certifiers give their clients a checklist that they must abide by to ensure that their certification remains valid. Any departure from the checklist would result in a loss of certification.

We note that the Australian story related to certification done by an Imam whose website has lapsed and there is no indication whether he is currently operating the certification business. AFIC does not wish to cast any aspersions on the certifier or the business. The purpose of this statement is to give advice to our community on the things to look out for when checking whether a certified product is in fact Halal.

AFIC is a pioneer of Halal certification in Australia, we implement the highest standards as required by both the domestic and international markets and we conduct regular audits on our client's operations to ensure that the conformity to the standards is ongoing. Our audits are thorough and methodical and every precaution is taken to ensure that the product is Halal from the moment of production up to the point of sale. Any non-conformity with the standards and/or our checklist results in an immediate withdrawal of the certificate.



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“When you see a Halal logo, make sure to check who it is issued by and check their website to see their accreditation. If the product bears the AFIC logo, then you can be sure that it is 100% Halal, the same is true for a number of major certifiers in Australia who abide by the rigorous domestic and international standards.” Said Dr. Rateb Jneid, AFIC president.

“It stands to reason that any products that contain alcohol or derivatives of pig meat are not Halal, similarly meat products that are placed in proximity of non-halal meats would stop being Halal even if they had been Halal prior to getting to that point.” Said AFIC Halal manager Manelle Zreika.

**Authorised by:**  
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