

CHAPTER 6

MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, AND ALTERATION

6.1 MAINTENANCE

- a. General. The facility management shall install and maintain each mechanical sampling system according to the guidelines established by FGIS and the manufacturer of the equipment used in the system.
- b. Official personnel are not responsible for preventive maintenance inspections.
- c. Facility personnel must perform preventive maintenance inspections and service on mechanical sampling systems regularly.
- d. Repeated incidence of failure to perform maintenance of the mechanical sampling system or the material load-out system will result in an increased frequency of supplemental examinations and supplemental tests.

6.2 REPAIR

- a. General. Mechanical sampling systems must be repaired as necessary in a timely manner and according to the manufacturer's guidelines.
- b. Suspension of Authorization. FGIS will suspend authorization of sampling systems that do not or cannot function properly until appropriate repairs are made and the accuracy of the sampler is confirmed by the testing office. If the testing office decides the repairs are sufficiently extensive, the sampling system must be tested on five test lots before the authorization is released. Replacing a minor part usually requires only an examination before releasing the authorization.
- c. Sampler Breakdowns.
  - (1) Export Grain Loading Situation (Diverter-Type Sampling System Only)
    - (a) If a diverter-type sampling system breaks down during the sampling of an export cargo grain shipment and there is no alternate diverter-type sampling system available, sample the remainder of the shipment using either a pelican or Ellis cup sampler. Show the actual sampling method(s) used on the inspection certificate.

- (b) However, the method may be indicated as diverter sampler if:
  - 1 At least 50 percent of the entire lot was sampled by the diverter-type sampling system, and
  - 2 The loading of the lot is completed within 8 working hours using the alternate sampling method.
- (2) Domestic Grain Loading Situation. If a diverter-type sampling system breaks during the sampling of a domestic lot of grain, show the actual sampling method(s) used on the inspection certificate regardless of time used or volume of grain loaded under the alternate method. No special statement is required, under any circumstances.

### 6.3 ALTERATION

- a. General. When alteration work begins, suspend the authorization of the affected sampling system until the alteration is completed and the system is retested and approved on five test lots. A minor alteration usually requires only an examination before reinstating the authorization.
- b. Temporary Pelican Modification (Diverter-Type Sampling System Only). The primary sampler's pelican may be temporarily modified to sample meal without affecting the authorization of the sampler, if one of the following methods is used and the pelican is returned to its proper configuration before being used to sample whole kernel commodities. The approved modification methods are:
  - (1) Inserting a block of wood or similar material in the opening of the pelican;
  - (2) Adjusting the air pressure or speed control valve; and
  - (3) Adjusting the cutting edge of the pelican.

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