



**USE OF THE  
WIETA FAIR LABOUR  
CERTIFICATION SEAL**

Version 4 (2022)

# FAIR LABOUR CERTIFICATION SEAL

## Introduction

The WIETA Fair Labour certification Seal was introduced in May 2012. The Fair Labour Certification Seal provide product assurance and ensures adherence of the traceability of the supply chain to the WIETA ethical standard, policies and procedures.

Before the applicant can apply for the use of the WIETA Seal, a traceability exercise needs to be undertaken to ensure that all grape and wine suppliers to the application have undertaken the necessary requirements for recognition by WIETA as an ethically responsible business.

All wine producers, grape growers, cellars and bottling facilities contributing to the production of the wine to be approved for the use of the WIETA Seal need to undergo the following steps

### Step 1

- a) Register your business on the WIETA on-line system
- b) Complete a Self-Assessment Questionnaire on the WIETA on-line system
- c) Participate in a WIETA Compliance Awareness Workshop

### Step 2

- a) Request an audit
- b) Have an audit undertaken on the site/s
- c) Submit corrective action plans on the online system within a maximum of 4 months of audit date.

### Step 3

- a) All corrective actions must be reviewed via desktop or site verification visit by the Lead auditor
- b) Once the corrective actions have been verified by the lead-auditor and signed off by the Reviewer within the third party Certification Body, the on-line system will then publish and release the WIETA site certificate.

## Fair Labour Certification Application Requirements

1. All your producers and the cellar needs to have completed their audits (STEP 2) and their certification(STEP 3).
2. Applicants are required to provide their WS and WSB numbers for the particular WINES requiring the Seal along with their SAWIS numbers. The primary and secondary suppliers and sites registered under the WS & WSB will be verified for their ethical status by sending through to WIETA along with an application form, relevant SAWIS submitted BG documentation, supported by your wine systems reporting.

3. Bottling facilities have been recognised from 2018 and would need to undergo an audit and complete all audit and certification requirements.
4. From 2018 harvest and the 2018 intake, any wine containing grape from sites who were audited after 1 August 2017 and whose audit report reflects a risk category D, will not be approved for the seal. For 2019 harvest only certificates with a rating A – C are approved.
5. **Seals will not be issued for** producer/s or supplier/s who demonstrate any of the following risks:
  - High to Very High Ethical Risk Certification Category D (and formally E)
  - Audit lapse due to non-submission of evidence within required timeframes
  - Any farm under investigation in terms of the Incidence Reporting & Violation Process
  - Suspension of certification
6. Sites on the WS and WSB numbers for individual wine applications are now traced back to the point of **INTAKE of the grapes** into the tank. Implementation is effective retrospectively and traceability can be done back to 2015 harvest.
7. Wines will also have to meet the following criteria for approval:

ETHICAL STATUS TRACED BACK TO GRAPE INTAKE YEAR	SEAL CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING STATUS OF WIETA SITES ON WS or WSBs	EXCEPTIONS
2015	60% WIETA certified sites (certified by April of the intake year) – 40% audited on WS / WSB SAWIS trace	Certification need to be issued by and valid until 30 April 2015 to qualify for 60%  Audits done must be valid (done from 1 October 2014 onwards)
2016	60% WIETA certified sites (certified by April of the intake year) – 40% audited on WS / WSB SAWIS trace	Certification need to be issued by and valid until 30 April 2016 to qualify for 60%  Audits done must be valid (done from 1 October 2015 onwards)
2017	60% WIETA certified sites (certified by April of the intake year) – 40% audited on WS / WSB SAWIS trace	Certification need to be issued by and valid until 30 April 2017 to qualify for 60%

		Any critical NCs in audit at time of intake not accepted for approval.  Audits done must be valid (done from 1 October 2016 onwards)
2018	80% WIETA certified sites – 20% audited on WS / WSB SAWIS trace	For 2018 intake  Certification need to be issued by and valid until 30 April 2018 to qualify for 80%  For the 20%, no audits with a D or E rating will be excepted for the seal  Audits done must be valid (done from 1 October 2017 onwards)
From 2019 onwards	100% WIETA certified sites from WS / WSB SAWIS trace	At harvest intake period  Certification need to be issued by and valid until 30 April of that harvest year

8. Note that feedback can take up to 5 working days from receipt of application.
9. Upon approval, the applicant will be sent the necessary **SEAL Specifications Document** as well as details as to where to have the SEAL labels printed should it not be incorporated into the Brand label on the bottle.
10. Note that inspections can be conducted to ensure that applicants have used the Seal appropriately.

## The Fair Labour Certification Process

1. When WIETA is satisfied that the Applicant's application for the WIETA Seal on submitted wine/s has met with the above requirements, a recommendation will be made by WIETA to issue the WIETA Seal approval.

2. On approval, a signed agreement will be issued with respect to the applicable Seal use.
3. The Seal is valid for the vintage year for which the wine is approved.
4. Should the WS or WSB number of the said wine approved change, the Applicant will re-apply to WIETA, and WIETA will perform a traceability on the wine and ethical status of suppliers. A successful traceability will result in renewal of Applicant's use of the Seal for said cultivar and vintage.
5. The Applicant acknowledges that the requirements for certification are determined by WIETA and may be changed at any time at the discretion of the WIETA Board.

## Documentation required with Seal Application

The following documentation will be required to be submitted with all applications:

- Evidence of wine been produced at the production facility – BG1
- Harvest records linked to the WS or WSB – BG6 (Green cards)
- Tank records linked to the vintage, cultivar and harvest for that WS or WSB – BG11
- Wine system generated records of wine produced at production site

## Bulk Wine Applications

1. *Only WIETA members could apply for such an application*
2. *All bulk wine applying to WIETA must be registered with SAWIS. No unregistered wine can be considered and any unregistered wine carrying a WIETA seal can, with immediate effect, be requested to be withdrawn from the market.*
3. *The applicant needs to complete a Seal Traceability application for traceability*
4. *The traceability for the bulk wine application would need to comply with all Fair Labour Certification requirements*
5. *The application needs to be accompanied by the following:*
  - *The bottling facility abroad needs to have been audited within the last two years with an ETI, BSCI, Fair Trade, Fair for Life or SA 8000 auditing firm. The audit report and a valid certificate of audit need to be submitted to WIETA with the wine application.*
  - *WIETA further reserves the right at any point to request that a site verification at the bottling facility is undertaken by an auditor of WIETA's choosing with costs for such audit to be covered by the applicant.*
6. *The applicant also needs to submit the Production Order number and relevant documentation for further traceability on wine post bottling abroad*
7. *WIETA will check in the initial status on the VS BG 11s once issued by Wine & Spirits Board. Once approved for ethical trace the WIETA Seal Agreement can be sent out.*
8. *Post wine bottling – once the samples are sent back to the Applicant Winery for final analysis – the QC (Quality Control vs Production pack analysis is to be sent to WIETA for final verification that wine was not blended / altered from the original BG 11*
9. *Any costs associated with final verification will be recovered from the applicant*
10. *Copy of VI1 to WIETA*
11. *WIETA could request at cost to the Applicant for a sample to verify content*
12. *The seal is issued for 1 vintage only*

13. *The Fair Labour Seal specification on the packaging must be consistent with WIETA requirements. Therefore a final sign off copy of the packaging with seal to be submitted to WIETA.*
14. *Countries where the WIETA Fair Labour certification Seal can be used:*
  - a. *South Africa*
  - b. *United Kingdom*
  - c. *Sweden*
  - d. *Denmark*
  - e. *Norway*
  - f. *The Netherlands*
  - g. *Belgium*
  - h. *Germany*
  - i. *Switzerland*

## Conditions of Breach

WIETA reserves the right to withhold, suspend or withdraw the Fair Labour Certification Seal at any time. The Seal may be withheld or suspended should the Applicant or its suppliers:

- Change grape and wine suppliers who are not certified as ethical traders by WIETA;
- Have their WIETA audit or certification lapse, suspended or withdrawn;
- The lapse of audit of the bottling facilities;
- Add blends to the wine not traced by WIETA;
- Be under investigation in terms of the Code Incidents Reporting and Violations Procedures
- Misuse the Seal (as defined herein);
- Commit any breach under the sign Seal Agreement; or
- Bring WIETA into disrepute in any way.