

**§ 19.386**

**27 CFR Ch. I (4-1-08 Edition)**

**§ 19.386 Alcohol content and fill.**

(a) *General.* (1) At representative intervals during bottling operations, proprietors shall test and examine bottled spirits to determine whether those spirits agree in alcohol content and quantity (fill) with that stated on the label or bottle.

(2) If the appropriate TTB officer finds that a proprietor's test procedures do not protect the revenue and ensure label accuracy of the bottled product, the appropriate TTB officer may require corrective measures.

(b) *Variations in alcohol content and fill.* The proprietor shall rebottle, recondition, or relabel spirits if the bottle contents do not agree with the respective data on the label or bottle as to:

(1) Quantity (fill), except for such variation as may occur in filling conducted in compliance with good commercial practice with an overall objective of maintaining 100 percent fill for spirits bottled; and/or

(2) Alcohol content, subject to a normal drop in alcohol content which may occur during bottling operations not to exceed:

(i) 0.25 percent alcohol by volume for products containing solids in excess of 600 mg per 100 ml, or

(ii) 0.25 percent alcohol by volume for all spirits products bottled in 50 or 100 ml size bottles, or

(iii) 0.15 percent alcohol by volume for all other spirits and bottle sizes.

For example, a product with a solids content of less than 600 mg per 100 ml, labeled as containing 40 percent alcohol by volume and bottled in a 750 ml bottle, would be acceptable if the test for alcohol content found that it contained 39.85 percent alcohol by volume.

(c) *Records.* Proprietors shall record the results of all tests of alcohol content and quantity (fill) in the record required by § 19.750.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1356, as amended, 1394, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5201, 5301))

[51 FR 36395, Oct. 10, 1986, as amended by T.D. ATF-288, 54 FR 47770, Nov. 17, 1989]

**§ 19.387 Completion of bottling.**

When the contents of a bottling tank are not completely bottled at the close

of the day, the bottler shall make entries on the bottling and packaging record covering the total quantity bottled that day from the tank. Entries shall be made not later than the morning of the following business day unless the bottler maintains auxiliary or supplemental records as provided in § 19.731.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1356, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5201))

**§ 19.388 Cases.**

(a) *General.* (1) On completion of bottling, the filled bottles with labels and properly affixed closures or other devices shall be placed in cases, and the cases shall be sealed.

(2) Each case of spirits filled shall be marked as prescribed by subpart R of this part before removal from such premises.

(b) *Unsealed cases.* (1) Cases may be temporarily retained on bonded premises without being sealed pending the affixing to bottles of any required labels, State stamps, or seals.

(2) Unsealed cases containing bottles without labels shall be marked in accordance with subpart R of this part, and segregated from other cases on bonded premises pending affixing of the labels, State stamps, or seals.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1356, as amended, 1360, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5201, 5206))

[T.D. ATF-198, 50 FR 8464, Mar. 1, 1985, as amended by T.D. ATF-206, 50 FR 23951, June 7, 1985]

**§ 19.389 Remnants.**

Where incident to bottling there remain bottles less than the number necessary to fill a case, the bottles, after being affixed with closures or other devices and labeled, may be marked as a remnant case as provided in subpart R of this part or kept uncased on the bonded premises until spirits of the same kind are again bottled. Appropriate notation shall be made on the bottling and packaging record to cover the bottling and disposition of the remnant. If the remnant is subsequently used to complete the filling of a case, an accounting shall be made on the subsequent bottling and packaging record showing the use of the remnant

by adding the remnant gallonage to the quantity to be accounted for together with appropriate notation explaining the transactions.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1356, as amended, 1360, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5201, 5206))

[T.D. ATF-206, 50 FR 23951, June 7, 1985]

**§ 19.390 Filling packages.**

Spirits may be drawn into packages from a tank (conforming to the requirements of § 19.273). Such packages shall be gauged by the proprietor, and he shall report the details of such gauge on a package gauge record, according to § 19.769, and attach a copy of the package gauge record to each copy of the bottling and packaging record covering the product. Such packages shall be marked as prescribed by subpart R of this part.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1356, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5201))

**§ 19.391 Removals by bulk conveyances or pipelines.**

When the spirits in the processing accounts are to be removed in bulk conveyances or by pipeline, the proprietor shall record the filling of the conveyance or the transfer by pipeline on the bottling and packaging record. The spirits shall be removed from bonded premises in accordance with subpart P of this part. The cosignor shall forward to the consignee a statement of composition or a copy of any formula under which such spirits were processed for determining the proper use of the spirits, or for the labeling of the finished product. Bulk conveyances shall be marked as provided in subpart R of this part.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1356, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5201))

[T.D. ATF-206, 50 FR 23951, June 7, 1985]

**§ 19.392 Rebottling.**

When the spirits are dumped for rebottling, the proprietor shall prepare a bottling and packaging record, appropriately modified. If the spirits were originally bottled by another proprietor, a statement from the original

bottler consenting to the rebottling must be secured by the proprietor.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1356, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5201))

**§ 19.393 Reclosing and relabeling.**

The proprietor may reclose or relabel distilled spirits, either before removal from bonded premises or after return thereto. The reclosing or relabeling of spirits returned to bonded premises shall be done immediately, and the spirits promptly removed. When spirits were originally bottled by another proprietor, the relabeling proprietor shall have on file a statement from the original bottler consenting to the relabeling. When spirits are relabeled, the proprietor shall have a certificate of label approval or certificate of exemption from label approval issued under 27 CFR part 5 for labels used on relabeled spirits. The proprietor shall prepare a separate record according to § 19.747 to cover the relabeling or reclosing. For spirits returned to bond under 26 U.S.C. 5215(c), the proprietor shall annotate such information on the record.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1356, as amended, 1358, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5201, 5205); sec. 807, Pub. L. 96-39, 93 Stat. 280 (26 U.S.C. 5215))

[T.D. ATF-206, 50 FR 23951, June 7, 1985]

**§ 19.394 Bottled-in-bond spirits.**

Spirits which are labeled as bottled-in-bond for domestic consumption shall meet the requirements in 27 CFR part 5 and shall bear a closure or other device as required by subpart T of this part.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0189)

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1356, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5201))

[T.D. ATF-206, 50 FR 23951, June 7, 1985]

**§ 19.395 Labels for export spirits.**

All bottles containing spirits bottled for export shall have securely affixed thereto a label showing the following:

- (a) Kind of spirits;
- (b) Percent-alcohol-by-volume of the spirits;