



All you would expect  
from the Seafood Experts



## SAFCOL Sustainable Seafood Procurement Policy

As the owner of the Australian brand Safcol canned tuna and salmon, as well as being a major supplier of seafood for customers around the world, Safcol's future depends upon in the health and sustainability of our ocean resources.

Safcol is concerned that fish stocks around the world are in decline and that many fishing practices are destructive and wasteful. Some parts of the seafood industry are also involved in illegal and unfair practices, both on land and at sea.

In recognition of these issues, and as an acknowledgement of its own role in protecting the future of seafood, Safcol is reviewing its seafood sourcing and has developed this policy on tuna where some most urgent work needs to be done. We will regularly review and update this policy as required.

### **Full traceability:**

Safcol tuna is fully traceable and legal.

Traceability is vital for ensuring that the tuna in Safcol cans is sourced from legal and fair fisheries.

Safcol has always taken pride in being able to trace its fish from ship to shelf. Safcol knows which boats catch its tuna, where they catch it and what methods they use.

To ensure this, Safcol does NOT source from:

- **Any vessel or company that has engaged in illegal, unregulated or unreported (IUU) fishing activities. Vessels are checked against IUU vessels blacklists supplied by the relevant tuna management bodies as well as the Greenpeace IUU blacklist: <http://blacklist.greenpeace.org/home>**

Any vessels that offload their catch to another vessel at sea (known as transshipment). All our vessels take their catch directly to land. This means we are able to trace the origin of our catch to the vessel and the area where the fish was caught. We know who cans our products for us and we control our catch from the ship to the shelf.

### **No purchasing of overfished stocks**

Safcol tuna is not sourced from overfished and declining stocks.

Safcol does not use the following overfished tuna species in its cans:

- Atlantic bluefin (*Thunnus thynnus*)
- Pacific bluefin (*Thunnus orientalis*)
- Southern bluefin (*Thunnus maccoyii*)
- Bigeye (*Thunnus obesus*)

Until recently Safcol sourced Yellowfin tuna (*T. albacares*) from the Pacific for its Premium range but given the increasing concerns about the declining stocks and the continued overfishing of Yellowfin, Safcol no longer sells this species of tuna in Australia. All Safcol tuna sold in Australia under the Safcol brand name will be pole-and-line caught Skipjack tuna, once our current stocks of Yellowfin tuna run out.

Our fishery stocks are managed by the US National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Every lot of raw material received is accompanied by Form #370 as required by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

### **No purchasing from indiscriminate fisheries**

Safcol does not source tuna from destructive fisheries.

Safcol's Skipjack tuna was previously caught by purse-seiners, some of which used fish aggregation devices known as FADs. These floating devices attract tuna as well as a whole range of other marine species, including endangered sharks, which are caught alongside the tuna when fishing boats set their nets around them. For this reason Safcol has switched to sourcing its Skipjack from fisheries using pole-and-line which catches tuna one by one, and has minimal impact on other marine species. All our Skipjack will be sourced from pole-and-line fisheries from October 2011.

All Safcol's tuna is certified as Dolphin Safe by the Earth Island Institute. Safcol is proud to state that our entire tuna catch is FAD free from October 2011.

Safcol's supplier factories operate within strict government guidelines under the auspices of the Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency, Thailand. An integral aspect of the Company operations is to ensure the sustainability of the ocean environment for the benefit of aquatic and human nature.

Third party validation of our fish suppliers is conducted by the Earth Island Institute. Our wild tuna catch is certified Dolphin Safe. Safcol supplier factories comply with the highest EU and USA Government Standards and operate with ISO 14001 certification.

### **Safcol is honest and transparent about its tuna**

Safcol will tell you what's in the can. It will clearly label its cans with the common and scientific name of the tuna species, the fishing method and the ocean where it is caught.

All other information about the fisheries and fishing methods is provided on the website at: **[www.safcol.com.au](http://www.safcol.com.au)**

Safcol will continue to inform its customers about the work it is doing on tuna and to highlight the environmental concerns to its customers, retailers, and in the media.

Safcol supports and promotes fair trade and the development of sustainable tuna fisheries.

Safcol believes that tuna fisheries must be managed according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The overarching messages of the code are contained within this general principle:

Fisheries management should promote the maintenance of the quality, diversity and availability of fishery resources in sufficient quantities for present and future generations in the context of food security, poverty alleviation and sustainable development. Management measures should not only ensure the conservation of target species but also of species belonging to the same ecosystem or associated with or dependent upon the target species.

Safcol will work with its suppliers as well as governments, the fishing industry, Non Government Organisations and scientists to improve the management, sustainability and fairness of tuna fisheries.

### **Support for marine reserves**

Safcol supports high seas marine reserves. Safcol recognises that marine reserve areas closed to all fishing activities are important to ensure the biodiversity and productivity of our oceans. Safcol supports the proposal to close High Seas Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean to all fishing and designate them as fully-protected marine reserves. Safcol does not source its tuna from any of these four areas.

Safcol works with suppliers to assist and publicly declares support for the marine reserves.

At Safcol we are committed to marine conservation. Our fishing methods used for our wild tuna catch abide by International Standards and is certified Dolphin Safe by the Earth Island Institute. The Earth Island Institute is a non-government organisation based in the USA who set the standards for dolphin safe practices and whose primary purpose is to monitor fishing practices worldwide.