

דרך קצרה

Brief summaries of cRc Kashrus Policies

HOW FAR DOES TA'AM TRAVEL

Taz says that *ta'am* cannot spread a "far distance" (מרחק רב) but does not give details of what he considers "far" enough away. Rav Schachter understands that the letter of the law is that *ta'am* only transfers half an inch from where the food was, but the *Poskim* are *machmir* to assume it travels as much as 6 inches away. 6 inches is a מרחק רב, and therefore no *ta'am* is absorbed into any part of the utensil which is more than 6 inches away from where the food was, even if the entire utensil is hot.

This ruling is relevant in factories where one steam pipe or filling line might be connected to two different kettles, with one processing kosher and the other non-kosher. Since the connecting pipe is more than 6 inches long, there is no concern that *ta'am* passes from one kettle to the next via the pipe.

An alternate reason to not be concerned would be if the connection between the kettles is through multiple pipes which are welded together; more on that in a future installment.

For several reasons, the leniency noted above does not apply to a kettle which is never filled beyond a specific level. Although product never reaches the top of the kettle, the entire kettle requires *kashering*.

However, Rav Schachter's position appears to be contradicted by *Chasam Sofer* who says [in the context of a case of טיפת חלב] that *ta'am* transfers "אפילו כמה טפחים", and the simple understanding is that this is more than 6 inches.

cRc POLICIES

95. Non-kosher food came into contact with one side of a large utensil. How far does the *ta'am* spread from the contact point into the rest of the pot? [The food and entire pot were hot].

We should assume there is no limit to how far *ta'am* will transfer in one pipe if all parts are hot.

[See Questions 97-99 regarding transfer when multiple items are welded together].

מראה מקומות

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