

דרך קצרה

Brief summaries of cRc Kashrus Policies

TRUCKING [Part 2 – Bitul]

There was a time, not so long ago, when the national *hashgachos* in the United States did not feel that they could insist that dedicated kosher tankers must be used to transport raw materials arriving at certified kosher factories. Such a requirement would add an entire new layer of oversight, would require that trucking companies obtain certification, and that those truckers refuse to carry non-kosher loads (or have a *kashering* afterwards). At the time it was thought that all those demands would discourage manufacturers from producing kosher items, and the *hashgachos* were looking for any reasonable line of reasoning that would justify being lenient.

Towards this end, they realized that the inner shell is made of such thin metal and the shell is so large, that any *b'lios* of non-kosher absorbed into the inner shell are invariably *batel b'shishim* into a kosher product hauled in that tanker. This meant that if a tanker carried hot lard on Sunday followed by hot coconut oil on Monday, any *b'lios* of lard absorbed into the tanker's walls would be *batel* in the coconut oil, and therefore the coconut oil would remain kosher *b'dieved*. Generally, *hashgachos* do not rely on *bitul* to certify an item, but in this case, they considered it a *sha'as hadchak* and chose to rely on this.

The mathematical calculations showed that, in fact, the shell is just 0.11 inches

thick, and the tanker is filled with product, the ratio of product to shell is approximately 135:1. That is clearly enough for all the *b'lios* to be *batel b'shishim*. Even if we add the *ta'am* absorbed into the support rings, hoses, and other parts of the tanker that have food contact, and even if the metal is somewhat thicker (0.13 inches) the ratio is still comfortably higher than 60:1 and the *b'lios* are *batel*. [The above ratios assume the tanker is filled to 100% capacity, as is typical. If not, the ratio of product to metal would be lower].

Nowadays, standards have been raised and national *hashgachos* generally require that raw materials arrive at a certified facility in tankers that are dedicated for kosher use or were *kashered* before kosher product was put into them. One exception is that no oversight is given to tankers used to transport Group 1 materials. The thinking is that (a) *b'lios* from the tanker are *batel b'shishim*, (b) these items are generally shipped at ambient temperature such that *b'lios* only transfer via *kovush* which *b'dieved* is not a concern, and (c) these ingredients are not certified, so that there is no element of *bitul issur l'chatchilah*.



CRC POLICIES

100. A (non-certified) "Group 1" material is being delivered to a certified kosher plant in a tanker truck. Must that tanker be "kosher"?

It is not required

מראה מקומות

שולחן ערוך סימן תנ"א סעיף י'