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SA fruit industry strengthens export ties with Indonesia

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By Staff Reporter

Export ties between South Africa and Asia were strengthened this week when the Indonesian Quarantine Agency granted 'Country of Recognition' status for South Africa's food safety control system, thereby increasing the export potential for SA deciduous fruit, according to a statement issued by Hortgro.

"This has been a long and complex process and the industry is heartened by this break-through," said Anton Rabe, Hortgro executive director.

It will pave the way for the fruit industry to establish a new trading regime and effectively opened up the port of Jakarta as entry point into Indonesia.

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Rabe thanked officials from the Department of International Relations and Cooperation and the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and at the embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia, for the successful conclusion of the negotiations.

"This is the result of a team effort between the public and private sector and will greatly assist with creating a more stable trading regime to grow our exports to Indonesia," said Rabe.

Products included under SA's Country of Recognition status are apples, pears, stone fruit, citrus and table grapes.

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