

**FAMI-QS THIRD PARTY CERTIFICATION SYSTEM ENDORSED BY
EUROPEAN CO-OPERATION FOR ACCREDITATION (EA)**

Brussels, 06 February 2013 --- Following an extensive evaluation against International Accreditation Standards, EA endorsed FAMI-QS for inclusion into the MultiLateral Agreement (MLA). FAMI-QS Third Party Certification System is the first scheme operating in the feed sector accepted for inclusion under EA-MLA.

With the view to harmonize the evaluation of sector specific schemes seeking accreditation in Europe, EA established a policy, procedures and criteria by which sector specific schemes shall be evaluated. FAMI-QS appreciated and welcomed the initiative of EA to harmonize the accreditation process and decision for the sector specific schemes and accompanied the procedure from an early stage.

FAMI-QS is among the first sector specific schemes which applied for a formal evaluation at European Level and inclusion under EA-MLA. FAMI-QS was assessed against the International Accreditation Standards and the output of this evaluation was positive.

The acceptance of FAMI-QS under the EA-MLA provides the common platform for all European Accreditation Bodies to fully integrate FAMI-QS in their services. Thus, all the FAMI-QS authorized Certification Bodies will include FAMI-QS under their accreditation. Through the accreditation process, FAMI-QS ensures that all authorized Certification Bodies have to demonstrate to deliver a consistently reliable and impartial FAMI-QS certification audit.

The accreditation is provided in accordance with ISO/IEC 17021 and ISO/TS 22003 for the following categories covering the whole scope of FAMI-QS:

- Category L, Biochemical Manufacturing: **Feed additives, Premixtures**
- Category H, Distribution: **Trade**
- Category F, Feed Production: **Functional Feed Ingredients, Specialty Complementary Feed and Specialty Complementary Dietetic Feed.**

About FAMI-QS

FAMI-QS Asbl is the management and coordination center for the FAMI-QS code of practice. It is the only certifiable code specifically aimed at Specialty Feed Ingredients and Their Mixtures (feed additives, functional feed ingredients, premixtures, specialty complementary feed, specialty complementary dietetic feed) for animal nutrition. The code addresses safety, quality and regulatory compliance in order to minimize the risk that unsafe specialty feed ingredients enter the food and feed chain. It offers independent certification for all operators placing these products on the market. Based on partnership with international certification bodies and third countries institutional partners, it includes more than 750 certified sites spread across more than 49 countries. The current FAMI-QS President is Dr. Dieter Greissing of *Evonik Industries AG*.

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