

FAMI-QS Building Confidence Initiative

With more than 1000 FAMI-QS certified sites spread throughout 53 countries, third party certification has become important for the Specialty Feed Ingredients Sector. In 2012, FAMI-QS launched the "Building Confidence Initiative" as a holistic approach for maintaining the high value of FAMI-QS certification. The initiative is based on three pillars: Credibility, Capacity Building and Support.

In addition to the accreditation, FAMI-QS has developed and implemented an independent integrity programme named: 'Surveillance Programme for Certification Bodies'. The implementation of actions in addition to the accreditation, to assess the performance of the certification bodies and auditors, is an important feature of the FAMI-QS Certification System. This provides an assessment mechanism for the performance of certification bodies and auditors, and a feedback mechanism to support the development of all the necessary capacity building tools and to ensure continuous improvement.

Within this framework, we are pleased to announce that FAMI-QS and Food Quality Solutions International (FQSI) have signed an agreement of cooperation. FQSI will further intensify and deliver the surveillance programme for certification bodies in Asia. Through this partnership, the number of integrity audits in Asia will increase along with training in the region. The first integrity audit by FQSI will be conducted in China.

One of FQSI's core values and strengths is the transfer of knowledge. We believe that working with our clients on education, awareness and clear understanding of the necessary food/feed safety controls is key to improving industry standards within the Asia Pacific region. Initially, FQSI will perform witnessed audits to identify opportunities for improvement in the performance of the auditors from the certification bodies in China and based on the outcome, will continually work with FAMI-QS to refine the current auditor competency development tools and enhance the integrity of the certification programme.

"This cooperation with FAMI-QS further extends FQSI's support for the feed industry, ensuring a robust implementation of the FAMI-QS feed safety standard, and in turn elevates the trust and credibility of the feed chain here in Asia and globally." – Elvina Gregory, FQSI

"The FAMI-QS certificate encompasses the knowledge and experience of the Sector of Specialty Feed ingredients and it is a passport for the placing of those ingredients on the global market. Our partnership with FQSI is a part of our commitment to defend and promote feed safety related aspects of the global food and feed chain and to contribute to the sustainable supply of safe and affordable feed and food." – Dr. Dieter Greissing, FAMI-QS President.

About FAMI-QS

FAMI-QS is the Quality and Safety System for Specialty Feed Ingredients.

Its role is to provide a structured, unified approach and coordination of certifications based on a branded Feed Safety Management System which includes Good Manufacturing Practices for the sectors of Specialty Feed Ingredients. FAMI-QS covers an important step in the food chain contributing to general health and safety of consumers worldwide for the supply of specialty feed ingredients.

About FQSI

Food Quality Solutions International (FQSI) is an Asian-based group of food/feed safety professionals. FQSI is able to provide a comprehensive range of services, partnering with its clients to successfully manage their food/feed safety, brand standards and quality programs throughout the Asia Pacific Region. FQSI's ultimate goal is to protect its client's brands.

For more information on the FAMI-QS Building Confidence, please contact Mr. Emmanuel Geneiatakis, ege@fami-qs.org.