FAMI-QS System revision

As stated in our previous Newsletters, FAMI-QS has launched in 2015 the challenging task of fully revising its system, in order to stay abreast of the new developments in our fast evolving industry. A significant change in the global feed legislation, partly inspired by the European one, is currently underway and the new requirements will further support the production of safe feed ingredients. Feed business operators, currently certified under FAMI-QS, should not feel challenged by these new rules, given that they have been operating according to the highest quality and safety standards. Our ongoing activities to align FAMI-QS to the new ISO High Level Structure and to adopt definitions and supporting documents to global needs will further contribute to maintaining this level.

For the upcoming modification, we will stick to our initial principle of staying industry driven and sector specific.
We have an experienced and active team of experts at hand as well as valuable partners in Brazil, China and the U.S., and thanks to their efforts, we are able to keep the Code technically fit to meet the challenges ahead of us.

The aim of the revision is also to meet the latest standardisation and certification developments. The revised documents will incorporate the latest version of the applicable accreditation standards, the ISO developments and will include the results of our Integrity Programme, feedback from the regulators, members and partners. The regulatory developments in China and in the U.S., namely the Food Safety Modernization Act, or FSMA food safety regulation, will be also integrated and taken into account in our Revision Process.

“The FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), the most extensive reform of the U.S. food safety laws in more than 70 years, was signed into law by President Obama on January 4, 2011. It aims to ensure the U.S. food supply is safe by shifting the focus from responding to contamination to preventing it.”

Code Revision

The FAMI-QS Secretariat revised the Code and incorporated the latest version of the applicable accreditation standards:

- ISO 17021 (Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems),
- ISO/TS 22002 (Pre-requisite programmes on food safety -- Part 6: Feed and animal food production) and
- ISO/TS 22003 (Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems).

Also, the new version of the Code was aligned with the new ISO High Level Structure for Management systems. All the new management system standards (MSS) will now be based on this High Level Structure, which defines an identical core text for all. The revision is not just a reorganisation of the management system, but it reinforces the process approach and the risk thinking, in the implementation of a Management System.

Finally, the findings of our Integrity Programme, remarks and observations from regulators, members and partners as well the regulatory developments in China and in the US (FSMA rules) will be part of our revised Code.

Documents under revision:
- Code of Practice
- Scope Description document
- Rules for Operators
- Rules for Certification Bodies
- Crisis Management Procedure
By December 2016, we will have a final draft of the FAMI-QS Code of Practice and it will be made available for public consultation on our website, during three months.

All new applicants as of 1st January 2018 will be reviewed under the new version of the Code.

Scope Revision and the Mandatory Process Documents

The clear Management System approach of the FAMI-QS Code shall be reflected also in the FAMI-QS scope description. The rephrasing of our scope-definition for international implementation will not change the range of ingredients eligible to be FAMI-QS certified. Instead, it will classify the said eligible products by the process they result from. The new title of the scope will be ‘Specialty Feed Ingredients’, defined as any intentionally added ingredient not normally consumed as feed by itself, whether or not it has nutritional value, which affects the characteristics of feed or animal products and animal performance. The scope includes production and trade of single ingredients coming out of the following production processes or their combination:

- **Chemical**
- **Bioprocessing**
- **Mining**
- **Extraction**
- **Refining**
- **Mixing**
- **Formulating**

The management system approach allows FAMI-QS to use its industry’s knowledge more efficiently, identifying risk per process, rather than per product. This will greatly improve the current production process and encourage better knowledge exchange at global level. Moreover, it will contribute to create a fair playing field.

Specific per process hazard assessments will be developed, with the view of providing specific guidelines for managing the hazards associated with each process. The so called ‘Mandatory Process Document’ will act as an add-on to the FAMI-QS Code. These will be auditable documents established for each process described in the Scope Description Document. Therefore, there will be a MPD for each of the processes covered in our scope.

**Role of the Mandatory Process Documents?**

- They are meant to check for the specific risks per process;
- These documents will also help to train the auditors and to assess them;
- They will be a tool to share knowledge and
- Since the MPD’s are linked to the Code – they are an add-on – they will be continuously updated

**ATTENTION!!**

- The regulatory status of the products will remain under the responsibility of the feed business operator.
- The products shall be legally produced in the country of origin and shall meet the regulatory requirements of the country of destination.
Rules and Crisis Management Procedure Revision

The final draft of the Rules for Operators, Rules for Certification Bodies and Crisis Management Procedure is planned to be released by July 2016. The drafts will be circulated among the FAMI-QS experts for comments and will be launched alongside the new version of the Code.

New Website

FAMI-QS is proud to announce that, as of the beginning of the current month, our new and refreshed website has been launched - http://www.fami-qs.org/

The redesigned website reorganized the information and is very user-friendly.

We added a section dedicated to the System Revision, which will include the latest documents and updates regarding this topic. The contents of this section will be available in January 2017.
2015 Activity Report

The fifth activity report published by FAMI-QS will be launched at the beginning of April. It will be made available on our website.

The 2015 Activity Report summarizes our accomplishments throughout the year and announces what is yet to come.

The 2015 FAMI-QS schedule was very busy. Apart from the arranged meetings with our approved certification bodies and other feed scheme owners, additional important activities that strengthened the stakeholders’ confidence continued:

✓ Implementation of our ‘surveillance programme for certification bodies’, with the goal of harmonizing the audits worldwide. As a result, FAMI-QS carried out audits in countries such as Brazil, the USA and China. This has extended a reasonable and well-founded basis to communicate and co-operate not only with chain partners, but also with the authorities, for the benefit of all parties.
✓ Extensive revision of our system demanded a lot of time and dedication from all the interested parts.

... and so much more!!
World Accreditation Day 2016

9 June 2016 marks World Accreditation Day as a global initiative, jointly established by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), to raise awareness of the importance of accreditation.

This year’s theme focuses on how accreditation can be a global tool to support public policy for all areas in the public sector – national and local governments, regulators. To help explain the use of accredited conformity assessment, the Public Sector Assurance website www.publicsectorassurance.org has been launched to showcase different global examples where accreditation has been used to support public policy efforts.

As in previous years, the day will be celebrated across the world with the hosting of major national events, seminars, and press and media coverage, to communicate the value of accreditation to Government, Regulators and the leaders of the business community.

FAMI-QS’s experience with Regulators

Back in January 2014, a first notification on the presence of unauthorised, genetically-modified ('Bt 63') rice in Choline Chloride 60% corn cob from China, was published on the RASFF Portal. This was the result of a company’s own check in France. Other rapid alerts were then published from several EU Member States. Since the beginning of this, FAMI-QS - in a synergistic approach - together with FEFANA and FEFAC –investigated the best way to address this specific issue in good cooperation with the EU - and Member States’ Authorities, as well as with the Chinese operators and authorities. We have certainly succeeded in implementing proportionate measures within the EU. In particular, we recommended that testing be focused mainly on feed additive and premixtures with the highest inclusion rates of Choline Chloride.

Later that year, the EU Food and Veterinary Office carried out an audit on feed additives and premixtures in China, with the above-mentioned incident in mind. The overall conclusion of the report was that: “the system for official controls in China provides satisfactory guarantees that feed additives and premixtures exported to the EU comply with requirements at least equivalent to those set out in the relevant EU legislation on feed. [...] Most establishments exporting feed additives and premixtures to the EU adhere to FAMI-QS, an industry-based safety assurance scheme. This adherence provides additional guarantees that these establishments meet the relevant standards set out in EU law.”

It was also mentioned that the proactive approach taken by FAMI-QS on this matter, has been the main driver of the preventive measures adopted by the Chinese manufacturers to prevent this kind of contamination from happening again.
European Commission Corner

Feed additive authorisations (by category)

Sensory additives
Flavouring compounds


Nutritional additives
Vitamins, pro-vitamins and chemically well-defined substances having similar effect

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2307 of 10 December 2015 concerning the authorisation of menadione sodium bisulphite and menadione nicotinamide bisulphite as feed additives for all animal species (OJ L 326, 2015-12-11)

Zootechnical additives
Digestibility enhancers

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/329 of 8 March 2016 concerning the authorisation of 6-phytase as a feed additive for all avian species and for weaned piglets, pigs for fattening, sows and minor porcine species (holder of the authorisation Lohmann Animal Nutrition GmbH) (OJ L 62, 2016-03-09)

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2304 of 10 December 2015 concerning the authorisation of a preparation of endo-1,4-beta-xylanase and endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase produced by Talaromyces versatilis sp. nov. IMI CC 378536 and Talaromyces versatilis sp. nov DSM 26702 as a feed additive for turkeys for fattening and for breeding (holder of the authorisation Adisseo France S.A.S.) (OJ L 326, 2015-12-11)


Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2382 of 17 December 2015 concerning the authorisation of the preparation of alpha-galactosidase (EC 3.2.1.22) produced by Saccharomyces cerevisiae (CBS 615.94) and endo-1,4-beta-glucanase (EC 3.2.1.4) produced by Aspergillus niger (CBS 120604) as a feed additive for laying hens and minor poultry species for laying (holder of the authorisation Kerry Ingredients and Flavours) (OJ L 332, 2015-12-18)

Gut flora stabilisers

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/104 of 27 January 2016 concerning the authorisation of a preparation of Saccharomyces cerevisiae MUCL 39885 as a feed additive for minor ruminant species for fattening and dairy production (holder of the authorisation Prosol SpA) (OJ L 21, 2016-01-28)

Consultations

Consultation on the regulatory fitness of chemicals -- excluding REACH (deadline: 2016-05-27)

RASFF

RASFF notification details - 2016.0144 - arsenic (3.5 mg/kg - ppm) in leonardite from Hungary, via Italy (correction of previous RASFF -- leonardite: feed material, not feed additive)

Notification 2016.0144: arsenic (3.5 mg/kg - ppm) in leonardite from Italy (2016-02-10)
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MISCELLANEOUS

Future Event: IFIF-International Feed Industry Federation
9th International Feed Regulators Meeting (IFRM) to be held on 2016-04-21

It is with great pleasure that we announce that the FAMI-QS Secretary General Emmanuel Geneiatakis will be giving a presentation during the event.

Invitation to the 5th Global Feed and Food Congress to be held in Antalya, Turkey, from 2016-04-18 to 20

About FAMI-QS

FAMI-QS Asbl is the management and coordination centre 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, and 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 850 certified sites spread across more than 52 countries. The current FAMI-QS President is Dr. Dieter Greissinger, Evonik Industries AG.

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