Dear Reader,

As spring knocks at the door, a new season starts and we are pleased to issue a revitalizing edition of the EFIP Newsletter. Among our activities, we have to inform you on the latest developments of the EFIP platform and the three specific feed safety assurance schemes which are under its umbrella. This EFIP newsletter will focus on three main topics: FAMI-QS presence in Brazil, translation of the EFISC Code in all EU languages and latest developments in GTP.

EFIP with over 850 of the major manufacturers remains a key discussion partner who offers concerted guidance for a higher feed and food safety to its members and other stakeholders in EU and abroad. EFIP looks forward to strengthen the feed chain as well as feed safety which will result in more confidence and trust among consumers in the EU 27. For the continued success of agriculture worldwide, safety of feed supply, along with its quality, nutritional value and reasonable pricing, is of paramount importance to EFIP. As global feed supply chains become increasingly complex, the need to stay abreast of emerging issues, changing legislation and innovative solutions becomes even more crucial nowadays.

The EFIP team would like to thank you all for your support and wishes you a very happy Easter time. For those of you who can enjoy a spring break and have the opportunity to observe work on farms and fields or attend an outdoor agricultural fair, it is time to go out and (re)discover how much impact feed safety can have on our daily life.

Didier Jans, Chairman of EFIP, Brussels

Members News

New EFISC Rules of Certification version 2.3 for download
COCERAL and GMP+ International sign mutual recognition agreement
Entry into force of version 1.2 of the GTP Scheme
http://www.fami-qs.org/news

European Guide to good practice for the industrial manufacture of safe feed materials translated in the 23 European Community languages.

The European Feed Ingredient Safety Certification Association is pleased to announce the translation of the Guide to good practice for the industrial manufacture of safe feed materials in all EU languages. The translation of the Guide has been ordered by the European Commission DG Health and Consumer Protection and is the result of an efficient cooperation between the EFISC association, translators and the operators feed safety experts. The shared effort will make the content of the Guide better accessible to the various operators in the European Member States. We believe that the translation of the Guide is a considerable step made in order to come to a better understanding and implementation of the feed hygiene package by the EU feed material operator. It will also support all those operators keen to achieve third party certifications against the EFISC Code.

The translations are available on the website of EFISC.
New GTP developments on multisite certification and dioxin monitoring to be adopted and published

Following the publication and the entry into force of version 1.2 of the GTP scheme on 1st January 2012, the GTP Harmonization Committee has worked hard in the last few months to develop jointly with GMP+ International pragmatic multisite certification rules aligned to the ISO 22003 requirements. The very last modalities should be agreed upon by both scheme owners in view of publishing the new rules in the coming weeks. Additionally, COCERAL has been working on dioxin monitoring requirements in line with the newly published Commission Regulation amending annex II of the Feed Hygiene Regulation. These new requirements elaborated in coordination with other scheme owners will be finalised and published very soon. Both addenda will be integrated into the applicable GTP version and a reasonable transitional period will be granted to operators to comply with these new requirements.

Cooperation between FAMI-QS and Brazilian SINDICATO NACIONAL DA INDÚSTRIA DE ALIMENTAÇÃO ANIMAL (SINDIRAÇÕES) now strenghtened

Sao Paulo – March 15th, 2012 --- Mr. Didier Jans, Secretary General of FAMI-QS Asbl and Mr. Ariovaldo Zani, Vice President of Sindirações, have recently signed an amendment to strengthen their cooperation. Through this amendment, Sindirações and FAMI-QS agreed on the following:

• Sindirações will be the contact office for FAMI-QS in Latin America;
• FAMI-QS will recognize Brazilian operators certified under Sindirações Level 2 domestic program as an assured source for the ingredients which are not covered by the FAMI-QS scope;
• Sindirações will deliver Module 2 of the “FAMI-QS: Awareness in the Feed Safety” training program under the same conditions that prevailed for Module 1. Module 2 has already taken place March 12th in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The scope of the “FAMI-QS: Awareness in Feed Safety” program is to provide participants with necessary information about the FAMI-QS certification process, the FAMI-QS code requirements as well as interpretation of the code and EU legislation on feed safety and feed. Thereby, FAMI-QS contributes to spreading best hygiene practices in the industry for special ingredients worldwide. Training is provided on a voluntary basis. An increasing number of people and Brazilian companies are concerned about feed quality and safety. More and more feed and feed additive products from Brazil are being developed and quickly exported. Local operators are therefore highly expected to improve their safety level. The close cooperation between FAMI-QS Asbl and Sindirações aim to lead to better support for the domestic feed and feed additive operators as well as boost the quality and safety management in the Brazilian feed industry.

The “FAMI-QS: Awareness in Feed Safety” training program not only runs in Brazil. It has recently been run in China where our partner carried out several training sessions to meet the local companies’ demand. These sessions were highly appreciated by players and leaders of the Brazilian feed industry. As operators show strong interest in FAMI-QS program, they draw great benefits from the training and get insight into quality and safety management. Based on the technical field experience of privileged partners, FAMI-QS will go on with a training framework set to guarantee the consistency of information delivered in different countries. This action helps standardize the production process and increase product quality control and safety system internationally.
COCERAL appoints new Chairman of the GTP Harmonization Committee

On 7 February 2012, Klaus Lewinski has been appointed new Chair of the GTP Harmonization Committee. Currently Head of Trade executions and quality department at Union Invivo Paris, Klaus Lewinski has previously worked for more than forty years in major trading companies such as Alfred C. Toepfer International, Bunge and Louis Dreyfus Commodities as responsible person for food and feed safety as well as certification issues. Over the last five years, he was deeply involved in the discussions of the GTP Harmonization Committee and put at disposal his in-depth experience in the various sector activities and range of goods (grains and meals) covered by the GTP certification to improve the scheme requirements and to make it as robust and trustful as the other equivalent schemes in the EU market.

FAMI-QS ensures up-to-date feed industry auditing in South America

At the 3rd auditor training session on FAMI-QS code’s (1) specific requirements held in Brazil, special emphasis was given to the auditing process like “assured sources, purchase of raw material, auditing techniques for HACCP (2), cross-contamination and response to a feed safety incident”.

FAMI-QS carries periodical technical trainings to its approved partners and Certification Bodies worldwide. Its aim is to guarantee an optimum level of knowledge and skills of its auditors and maintain the quality and excellence of the system. For the last few years, the interest in FAMI-QS certification has considerably increased in non-EU countries. The feed additives and premixtures industry in South America has especially welcomed the FAMI-QS system, considered as a very useful tool to comply with European Regulations when putting their products on the EU market and also to facilitate the world trade of specialty feed ingredients and their mixtures. According to the auditors, “the training is a great opportunity for brushing up our knowledge about FAMI-QS and also fostering a close cooperation with FAMI-QS.” Due to the big impact that FAMI-QS is currently having and after the success recorded in the two previous training sessions for Brazil, Mr. Emmanuel Geneiatakis (FAMI-QS Quality Manager) and Mrs. Laetitia Cirilli (FAMI-QS Process Manager) gave a three-day training to all Latin American auditors in Sao Paulo, Brazil. This session was organized with the help of Sindirações (the Brazilian Feed Manufacturer Association) and included an overview as well as an update on the FAMI-QS Code of Practice (1) and its application. This year, the training was part of the FAMI-QS harmonization auditing process at global level. In 2011, FAMI-QS organized trainings for auditors in the following regions: Brazil, India, USA and China.

EFISC Rules of Certification aligned with ISO 17021 and ISO/TS 22003

Based on the first assessment made by the European accreditation Body, the EFISC feed safety management system has been revised in order to change from process to system certification. This step forward provides further improvement of the EFISC feed safety certification system and will provide a solid basis to strengthen the confidence in EFISC certification. As a result of the revision the EFISC feed safety management system is fully aligned with the requirements in ISO 17021 supplemented by ISO/TS 22003 (food safety management system). The new set of Certification Rules will be applicable for all new contracts and recertification as of the 1 May 2012. EFISC certificates issued before the 1 May will remain valid for the duration of the three year certification cycle.

Would you like to know more about EFIP and its different sector schemes? Please contact us for more information. Our team will be pleased to help you.