More added value for the FAMI-QS certified feed business Operators: FAMI-QS – the Quality and Safety System for Specialty Feed Ingredients, has achieved endorsement under the International Accreditation Forum Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (IAF MLA).

Accreditation is an important pillar for the credibility of our scheme. It gives assurance to governments, supply chains and consumers that organisations providing FAMI-QS certification have the required competence and impartiality to do so.

The endorsement of FAMI-QS under IAF MLA Agreement is an important milestone in the long accreditation journey undertaken.

In 2010, FAMI-QS successfully achieved recognition under the European cooperation for Accreditation (EA) EA-1/22 A: 2016 EA Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes. The specific procedure was of great value, as it defined requirements that were unknown to us as a scheme owner until that day. It was an educational tool to improve our understating of accreditation. The submission of an application for IAF MLA acceptance was a natural step forward, towards alignment of our mission to promote accreditation activities and secure the global feed supply chain for the sector of specialty of ingredients.

With more than 1100 FAMI-QS certified feed business Operators spread over 53 countries, setting accreditation at global level was a natural step forward for FAMI-QS.

"The FAMI-QS certification is helping our members to secure a high quality, safe and traceable feed supply chain. Most of our members are involved in international business and for them it is of utmost importance that FAMI-QS is recognized globally. Here, the accreditation will support us significantly by bringing the verification process on a higher even level thus providing the confidence that FAMI-QS is one of the most trustful standards. We are very happy and grateful that with IAF recognition authorities worldwide should now recognize FAMI-QS as the gold standard for feed quality systems” – Dr. Stephan Heck, FAMI-QS President

IAF provides a unique quality infrastructure for managing FAMI-QS accreditation at the global level, allowing us to implement a uniform approach to FAMI-QS accreditation and ensuring fair play in the market. The MLA further contributes to the freedom of global trade by eliminating technical barriers. FAMI-QS is the first purely feed safety management system scheme that has received IAF MLA recognition.

"IAF is a global network of conformity assessment accreditation bodies, consisting of accreditation bodies and relevant stakeholders, with the aim of facilitating trade, supporting regulators, protecting consumers and the environment, and facilitating sustainable development by operating a worldwide mutual recognition arrangement among accreditation bodies in order that the results issued by conformity assessment bodies accredited by IAF members are accepted globally. The IAF MLA enhances the harmonized application of international conformity assessment standards and scheme rules." – Mr. Xiao Jianhua, IAF Chairman

The sector of specialty feed ingredients, but also the feed chain, will benefit from this recognition. FAMI-QS is constantly working towards providing for the security of the global feed supply chain. The quality and safety of feed for animals intended for human consumption has a direct impact on the quality and safety of the food manufactured from these animals. Given the anticipated growth of the world’s population to around 9 billion people by 2050, and the associated
higher demand for animal proteins, it is vital that the feed industry, as well as the wider agricultural chain, can meet this challenge in a sustainable, safe and high quality way.

The FAMI-QS Board of Directors and Secretariat thank the task group (Mr. Xiao Jianhua (CNAS), IAF Chair, Dr. Norman Brunner (Akkreditierung Austria), IAF MLA Committee Chair, Mr. Ekanit Romyanon (NSC Thailand), IAF Technical Committee Chair, Mrs. Sheronda Jeffries (QuEST Forum), IAF User Advisory Committee Chair, Mrs. Kylie Sheehan (JAZ-ANS), IAF WG Food Chair, on the assessment of the FAMI-QS Scheme – for their effort in efficiently managing the endorsement process. We would also like to recognise the effort made over the last years by our home Accreditation Body – Swiss Accreditation Services (SAS) and notably to Mr. Lorenz Roggli for ensuring our compliance with the accreditation requirements.

ABOUT IAF

The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) is the world association of Conformity Assessment Accreditation Bodies and other bodies interested in conformity assessment in the fields of management systems, products, services, personnel and other similar programs of conformity assessment. Its key roles include:

- to maintain and expand the Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA), between accreditation body members, with the aim of reducing risk to business and its customers and ensuring that an accredited certificate may be relied upon anywhere in the world;

- to develop and harmonize accreditation practices across the world; and

- to promote accreditation as an effective mechanism for providing confidence in goods and services, which is essential to global trade facilitation.

About FAMI-QS

FAMI-QS is the only GLOBAL Quality and Feed Safety Management System for the sector of Specialty Feed Ingredients. The code addresses safety, quality and regulatory compliance in order to minimize hazards and ensure the placing on the market of safe and legal Specialty Feed Ingredients.