



## ORGANISATION

EFISC Aisbl is a non profit association under Belgian law and is the scheme owner of EFISC. It is responsible for the management, development and promotion of the code. Furthermore, EFISC coordinates the certification process in partnership with qualified and accredited certification bodies. EFISC members are European associations or companies producing feed materials.

EFISC Aisbl offers an open platform for dialogue to the feed materials manufacturers to exchange on issues related to feed materials safety and welcomes the participation of other sectors.

## THE EFIP BACKGROUND AND APPROACH

EFISC has been developed within the framework of the European Feed Ingredients Platform (EFIP).



The European Feed Ingredients Platform (EFIP) is a voluntary platform of the major European feed ingredients representatives aiming at an EU wide harmonized understanding and implementation of the EU feed hygiene regulations. Such a harmonised approach strengthens the feed safety situation to the benefit of the EU livestock industry and downstream sectors, and ultimately increases the confidence of the consumer in the EU 27. Furthermore, it facilitates trade within the EU internal market by providing uniform requirements.

The different sectors and their companies share experience, cooperate and offer concerted guidance to their members on the non-competitive issue of feed safety. EFIP liaises and offers a platform for dialogue with other stakeholders.

## CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## THE EU CONTEXT

Throughout the European Union customers expect safe food on their plate. Therefore the European Commission and the Member States have developed EU harmonized feed and food legislation in order to provide a transparent legal basis for EU producers and customers covering the food chain from the farm to the fork. Besides addressing feed safety this legislation aims at facilitating trade within the internal market by providing uniform requirements. The legislator invites the European feed producing sectors to develop European guides to good practice in order to provide guidance to the responsible operator on the implementation of these legal requirements and beyond.



## THE EFISC INITIATIVE

The European code to good practice for the industrial manufacturing of safe feed materials (EFISC) was initiated as a shared commitment of the starch industry (AAF) and the oil and protein meal industry (FEDIOL). EFISC aims to provide an EU harmonised, voluntary feed safety assurance scheme for the feed materials industry. As such it will facilitate market demand in the ongoing globalisation of the feed chain.

The EFISC initiative started off with the European guide to good practice for the industrial manufacturing of safe feed materials, developed by the sector and endorsed by the European Commission and the EU Member States as of the 1st of July 2010. The European guide is available in all EU languages for ease of use. The document is available on the website [www.efisc.eu](http://www.efisc.eu). EFISC then turned the guide into a certifiable feed safety assurance scheme.

## THE PROMISE

EFISC is making the best use of the industry's sector knowledge, experience and expertise and by doing so, raising the feed safety culture in the sector.

A European harmonised feed safety assurance scheme will positively contribute to the removal of trade barriers caused by national standards, and provides increased transparency regarding the requirements.

EFISC provides a third party certification tool for feed material producers to demonstrate compliance with the relevant EU feed hygiene regulation. Certifying against EFISC is the best way to prove to customers in the European Union and national authorities that products are meeting the European regulatory criteria. Customers can trust both the operator who is living up to its responsibility and the feed materials manufactured under the scheme regarding feed safety.

## THE EFISC VISION

The members of EFISC share the following key elements in their common vision on safety assurance in the feed chain:

- Manufacture safe feed material as a prerequisite for the success of livestock production in the EU
- Build on the work done by the EU legislator
- Develop a feed material safety assurance scheme with a pan- European reach
- Aim for EU harmonisation whilst respecting the specificities of the sectors
- Reduce the numerous audits in view of operational efficiency
- Favour feed material sectors to develop tailor made safety rules
- Assume feed safety standards should be scientifically based.

## BENEFITS OF EFISC

- Harmonised implementation of feed materials safety requirements in the EU 27
- Endorsed as European Guide for safe feed materials by the European Commission and EU Member States
- Provides a passport for free trade within the EU 27, no trade barriers by national systems
- Builds on the collective technical knowledge, expertise and experience of the sector
- Offers a solid and uniform certification system by accredited certification bodies and qualified auditors
- Contributes to the feed safety culture at the operator level, providing insight and improved feed safety awareness to the employees.



## THE EFISC FEED SAFETY ASSURANCE SCHEME

The EFISC feed safety assurance scheme or code provides guidance for operators on how to establish their own feed safety management system in accordance with the relevant EU legislation. It contains the requirements for a management system, prerequisite programmes, HACCP, withdrawal and traceability. In addition, it contains the sector specific hazard analysis by product and process according to the state-of-the-art practices in risk management. These risk assessments are living documents, developed and maintained by industry feed safety experts.

On a regular basis the European sector expert groups and the EFISC technical committee evaluate the code in order to include new developments in the legislative provisions and scientific and technological developments.

## EFISC CERTIFICATION SYSTEM

A third party certification system has been developed to make sure that the requirements will be uniform and consistently applied by the operators in the EU. The certification system provides transparent rules and responsibilities for operators, the scheme owner and certification bodies. A high level of audit performance is guaranteed through the strict requirements for the Certification Body and Auditors. The certification bodies are accredited by the National accreditation Bodies and trained by EFISC and experts from the industry.

A certificate with a three years validity will be issued after a successful initial audit. The surveillance audit takes place on an annual basis.

EFISC is built to be compatible with ISO documents. This allows for integrated audits against multiple standards resulting in a better audit efficiency, consistency and optimisation.

An up to date list of the certified operators is available on the EFISC website.

