

AFIA's Safe Feed/Safe Food Program Brings Value in Regulatory Compliance and More

The American Feed Industry Association's Safe Feed/Safe Food (SF/SF) program began in 2004 with Food Sector Category 36 (FSC36), a voluntary, independently certified program designed for the total feed industry. The SF/SF certification program maintains comprehensive standards of excellence that go beyond existing regulations to maximize feed and food safety. Excelling at every aspect of feed production remains "Our Responsibility, Our Promise" to regulators, customers and American consumers.

Since its beginnings more than a decade and a half ago, FSC36 has enjoyed sustained growth and increased in popularity. Society, as a whole, is increasingly aware of and interested in food safety and where its food comes from. Animal agriculture is certainly no stranger to this reality and concerns about food defense and intentional adulteration have become more prevalent.

At its core, SF/SF provides a code, which a feed facility can be audited against by an approved third-party, often referred to as a certifying body or auditor. The FSC36 code encompasses the entirety of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) for animal food, but it does not stop there. The code also contains criteria for food defense, biosecurity and approving suppliers. The additional focus areas are increasingly beneficial in safeguarding the health and safety of humans and animals.

The FSC36 content is managed under the direction of AFIA's Quality and Animal Food Safety Committee, which is comprised of 15 representatives from the AFIA membership who are recognized as thought leaders in quality and food safety systems. Throughout the years, under the committee's direction, the SF/SF content has changed and evolved, keeping pace with the latest scientific knowledge, regulations and industry practices. As such, participants have identified several ways that the program has brought value to

them over time.

Recently, the AFIA conducted an informal survey of participants that found that the industry values SF/SF as a regulatory compliance resource, a differentiator in the marketplace and an aid in business-to-business transactions. It is pleasing to see value revealed in multiple ways and the applicability of SF/SF to a variety of businesses.

As an aid in regulatory compliance, SF/SF excels in creating a culture of food safety and an awareness of potential hazards due to the parallels with FSMA for animal food. Further, it brings to light the need for awareness in biosecurity and food defense, as well as the importance of dealing with approved suppliers. As a differentiator in the market, SF/SF provides peace of mind to livestock and pet owners who rely on the products produced by certified facilities. Lastly, among myriad certification programs, SF/SF is seen as making business transactions easier and faster, given its presence and respect in our industry. ■

If your facility would like to enjoy the benefits mentioned above and solidify its food safety culture, the AFIA encourages you to consider participating. For more information regarding SF/SF, please visit safefeedsafefood.org or contact Paul Davis, Ph.D., the program's technical advisor, at pdavis@afia.org or Kori Chung, program administrator, at kchung@afia.org.



DID YOU KNOW?

Pet food manufacturers use leftover ingredients from human food production, such as parts of the animal that we don't eat, to provide quality pet food nutrition.



540+ diverse ingredients used in pet food

Based on 2020 report from IFEEDER, NARA & PFI.

RECENTLY CERTIFIED FACILITIES

KEY: FSC32 - MANUFACTURE OF PET FOOD FSC34 - MANUFACTURE OF ANIMAL FEEDS FSC36 - SAFE FEED/SAFE FOOD

FACILITY	LOCATION	CERTIFICATION DATE	TYPE
Harvest Fuel dba Probiotein	North Dakota	Nov-19	FSC36
Nutramax Manufacturing Inc./Nutramax Laboratories Veterinary Sciences, Inc.	South Carolina	Mar-20	FSC36
Strong Microbials Inc	Wisconsin	Jan-20	FSC36
Intermountain Farmers Association - Draper	Utah	Feb-20	FSC36
Iotron Industries USA Inc.	Indiana	Feb-20	FSC36
IsoNova Technologies LLC	Iowa	Nov-19	FSC36
IsoNova Technologies LLC	Minnesota	Nov-19	FSC36
Midwestern Pet Foods	Oklahoma	Apr-20	FSC36
Mosaic Potash Carlsbad	New Mexico	Jan-20	FSC36
Pro Ag Premix, LLC	Pennsylvania	Oct-19	FSC36
Simplot Western Stockmen's	Idaho	Jan-19	FSC36
SuperPet Nutrition	British Columbia, Canada	Apr-20	FSC32
Inner Mongolia Muquan-Yuanxing Feed Co.,Ltd.	Hohhot, China	Dec-19	FSC34
ADM Animal Nutrition - Woodstock	Ontario, Canada	Dec-19	FSC32 FSC34
Blue Buffalo/Heartland Pet Products - Richmond	Indiana	Mar-20	FSC32
Darling Ingredients	Arkansas	Mar-20	FSC32
Diamond Pet Foods	Missouri	Feb-20	FSC32
IMS Trading, LLC	New Jersey	Nov-19	FSC32
Karn Meats, Inc.	Ohio	Dec-19	FSC32
Lhoist North America - Nelson Plant	Arizona	Nov-19	FSC34
Lortscher Animal Nutrition, Inc.	Kansas	Mar-20	FSC34
SC Pet Food Solutions/Virginia Clement (Quality)	South Carolina	Mar-20	FSC32
Sonac USA LLC - Maquoketa	Iowa	May-20	FSC32 FSC34