

# AFIA's SF/SF Program Tips Cap to the Past, Looks to the Future

**S**afe Feed. Safe Food. Take either of those quips and overlay the diversity of food production and societal preferences and you'll create a litany of thoughts, opinions and perhaps emotions. Undoubtedly, food safety is much more in the forefront of our culture and society than ever before.

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

Some of the original pillars of the SF/SF programs include:

- Trusted by the Food and Drug Administration;
- Demonstrates accountability and commitment to food safety;
- Reduces risk and costs;
- Protects companies, employees and customers;
- Sharpens awareness of regulations; and
- Verified by independent auditing.

Such hallmarks are obviously valuable to the animal food industry as evidenced by a long history of year over year growth in participating facilities. SF/SF certified facilities currently number in the mid-600s, with new facilities joining and inquiries about the program fielded frequently. As a product of the program's growth and popularity, firms can choose from four food safety codes under the AFIA SF/SF umbrella. These include:

- FSC36 Safe Feed/Safe Food;
- FSC34 Manufacture of Animal Feeds;
- FSC32 Manufacture of Pet Food; and
- International Safe Feed/Safe Food (in partnership with FAMI-QS).

Now, after more than 15 years of service to the animal food industry, representatives from certified facilities cite numerous

benefits of SF/SF. We hear most often that our programs help facilities with regulatory compliance. Updated throughout the years, SF/SF now supports compliance with the requirements of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). The requirements for FSMA have been incorporated into the FSC36 SF/SF program to support facilities' compliance with the new regulatory requirements and to drive continuous improvement in their quality and food safety programs.



Likewise, we have learned that our certification programs ease and even speed up business-to-business transactions by providing a trusted third-party certification, which can take the place of lengthy audits otherwise conducted by the parties themselves. SF/SF has become somewhat of a language spoken within the industry!

Additionally, certification is recognized as a differentiation and competitive advantage in the marketplace. As society becomes more engaged in the origins, production practices and safety of human and animal food, more and more manufacturers and ingredient suppliers are finding value in third-party certifications.

As AFIA strives to improve our products and grow our programs, a short survey has been released to help identify and quantify the most prevalent perceived benefits of the SF/SF program. Certified facilities have received the survey and AFIA encourages participation in it. ■

**For more information regarding SF/SF, please visit [safefeedsafefood.org](http://safefeedsafefood.org) or contact the program's technical advisor Paul Davis, Ph.D., at [pdavis@afia.org](mailto:pdavis@afia.org), or Kori Chung, the program administrator, at [kchung@afia.org](mailto:kchung@afia.org).**

## DID YOU KNOW?

AFIA offers four feed and pet food safety certification programs called Safe Feed/Safe Food, designed to establish and promote generally accepted food safety guidelines.



## RECENTLY CERTIFIED FACILITIES

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

FACILITY	LOCATION	CERTIFICATION DATE	TYPE
Ajay North America	Powder Springs, Ga.	Aug-19	FSC36
ARREFF Terminals, Inc	Portsmouth, Va.	Apr-19	FSC36
Barrett Petfood Innovations	Brainerd, Minn.	Jul-19	FSC32
BNG Phoebe, LLC	Kiel, Wis.	Jun-19	FSC32
Boyer Valley	Huron, S.D.	May-19	FSC36
Central Bi-Products	Long Prairie, Minn.	Jun-19	FSC36
CP FEEDS LLC	Wrightstown, Wis.	Apr-19	FSC36
Darling Ingredients	Hamilton, Mich.	Jul-19	FSC36
Diamond Pet Foods	Meta, Mo.	Jun-19	FSC32
EW Nutrition USA, Inc	Adel, Iowa	Jun-19	FSC36
Hills Pet Nutrition	Etten-Leur, Netherlands	Aug-19	FSC32
Hills Pet Nutrition	Hustopecce, Czech Republic	Aug-19	FSC32
ICM Biofuels	St Joseph, Mo.	Apr-19	FSC36
International Food Products	Oskaloosa, Iowa	Aug-19	FSC36
International Ingredient Corporation - Oak Center	Lake City, Minn.	Mar-19	FSC32
IsoNova Technologies LLC	Social Circle, Ga.	Feb-19	FSC36
KDR Pet Treats	Fresno, Calif.	Apr-19	FSC32
Kent Nutrition Group, Inc.	Arcade, N.Y.	Jun-19	FSC32
Lhoist North America - Nelson Plant	Amargosa Valley, Nev.	Mar-19	FSC34
Mix Rite Agri-Service	Kennan, Wis.	May-19	FSC36
PCS Phosphate	Joplin, Mo.	Jul-19	FSC36
PCS Phosphate	Joplin, Mo.	Jul-19	FSC34
Perdue AgriBusiness, Animal Nutrition	Binghamton, N.Y.	Mar-19	FSC36
Perdue AgriBusiness, Animal Nutrition	Earlville, Iowa	Apr-19	FSC36
Perdue AgriBusiness, Animal Nutrition	Ansonville, N.C.	Mar-19	FSC36
Prime Packing Partners LLC	Hatfield, Pa.	Mar-19	FSC32
Pro-Pet LLC	St. Marys, Ohio	May-19	FSC32
Pro-Pet LLC	Owatonna, Minn.	May-19	FSC32
Swift & Company Trade Group	Commerce, Ga.	Apr-19	FSC36
Tyson Foods - Amarillo	Amarillo, Texas	Aug-19	FSC36
Tyson Fresh Meats	Dakota City, Neb.	Jun-19	FSC36
Vets Best Trading as Real Pet Food Company	Somersby, New South Wales	Aug-19	FSC32

*\*\*Please note that Validus Verification Services, LLC did not provide data for FSC36 Safe Feed/Safe Food.*