

Consortium on emulsifiers established by FEFANA

Brussels, 13 March 2009 – One consortium to support the industry in obtaining EU authorisation for emulsifiers existing under the Feed Additives Regulation 1831/2003 has been established by the European Feed Additives and Premixtures Association (FEFANA). This consortium is indeed focusing on emulsifiers classified in the technological additives category determined in Annex I of the 1831/2003 legislation and has been named EMULAC. Today, co-ordinated efforts of those producing or using emulsifiers are urgently needed in order to secure their authorisation on the EU market and also maintain an appropriate diversity of sources. Towards their clients who are closely watching the re-authorisation process, companies involved in the EMULAC European Economic Interest Grouping position themselves as responsible and reliable partners. The good news is that there is still a chance for any interested partner to join the EMULAC consortia!

The fact that the EMULAC consortium has been established does not mean that it will automatically take care of all the emulsifiers pertaining to it. The grouping has defined objective criteria in order to bring (or not) specific emulsifiers under the scope of work of the grouping, based upon the interest and commitment of its members. As with the 8 other consortia that are currently established (ACIAC for organic acids and their salts, AMAC for amino acids, ANTOXIAC for antioxidants, CARAC for carotenoids, FFAC for flavourings, SILAC for silage agents, TREAC for trace elements and VITAC for vitamins) the precise list of emulsifiers on which the new grouping is working remains open for a while in order to adapt to the need of new members. The list of specific additives on which the grouping is working will remain confidential to all EMULAC members. Modification of the working list for the newcomers is still allowed until March 31st, 2009. Afterwards, the list of additives on which the grouping will be working shall be considered as definitely fixed and shall not be adapted anymore. Just like all other consortia established by FEFANA, EMULAC is open to non-FEFANA members.

To know more about EMULAC and its activities, please go to the following web page:

<http://www.fefana.org/EEIG/EMULAC.htm>

As the consortium members have already started to work proactively, it shall become increasingly difficult to integrate newcomers as the work progresses. Beside access to the vast know-how established within FEFANA over the years, the reduction of individual burden, the sharing of costs, the legal framework it provides for companies to cooperate, the close relationship with EFSA can also be seen as an important added value for such grouping as EMULAC. It is now indeed of paramount importance for any EMULAC applicant to avoid investing time and efforts leading to dead ends. Regulation (EC) 429/2008 of 25 April 2008 on detailed rules for the implementation of Regulation (EC) 1831/2003 regarding the preparation and the presentation of applications as well as the assessment and the authorisation of feed additives has now been published for several months.

So far, the feed additive producers, users, traders and EU associations have managed to keep the vast majority of commonly used feed additives authorised on the EU market. The Community Register of Feed Additives gives transparency to the process. As far as EMULAC is concerned, only the emulsifiers listed in the Register can be sold and used, for the functions and animal species covered in the authorisation. With the complete authorisation dossier to be built, a last but major step is ahead for all feed emulsifier operators.

The content of the dossier to table has been defined by a Guideline Regulation which the European Commission has voted and recently published. For several years, FEFANA has actively been involved with the EC and EFSA in the preparation of this pivotal document. FEFANA is furthermore

establishing additional tools for helping its members and the consortia to prepare their dossiers in a consistent and coordinated way.

About FEFANA

FEFANA is the EU Feed Additives and Premixtures Association. It was established on October 13th, 2004 and is the new juridical form of the feed additives producers association that was founded in 1963. With 100 members from 28 countries, the association is the interface between the feed additives industry and the European Union authorities, including Member States authorities, in order to promote, safeguard and defend common and general interests of the industry (in several topics like guidelines, register, labelling and definitions, analysis, feed hygiene and food chain safety or non-feed use of additives). FEFANA's chairperson is Dr. Hadden Graham of AB Vista.

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