MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

ENSURE THAT PRODUCTS COMPLY WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LABELING REGULATIONS
Food label reviews ensure that food products comply with national and international regulations for labeling.

In an ever changing regulatory landscape, many of the world’s food suppliers, importers, exporters and retailers rely on us to keep them up to date, both locally and internationally, and to conduct their food label reviews. Our global network of food experts helps you to meet this consumer demand. We have the local knowledge, language skills and expertise, relieving you of the need to maintain extensive in-house resources.

SGS LABEL REVIEW SERVICE
We support the whole label development process. From a simple label check to verify compliance with food regulations, to full language translation and verification of label layout and design, we are with you every step of the way.

Documentation which demonstrates that a product complies with the regional and local legal requirements is often required by retailers. To reduce your risk of non-compliance, we can review food labels against all relevant criteria, including:

- Name of the food
- List of ingredients and compliance of the product composition (e.g. if used additives are permitted)
- Allergen information
- Nutrition labeling
- Label layout, pictures, language and type size compliance
- Health and nutrition claims
- Labeling elements that are required on national basis

NUTRITIONAL LABELING
At least 74 countries and trading blocs have some form of nutritional labeling regulations, or are in the process of enacting them. However, there is little consistency between countries, except perhaps in Europe. To achieve full compliance, labels need to be reviewed by experts who understand the specific labeling regulations of the country to which the product will be sold. Our experts are competent and knowledgeable of the many and varied country specific requirements.

We can combine laboratory testing to create nutrition facts tables and verify nutrient claims. In USA/Canada, an industry recognized software using USDA Nutritional Database, can be used to create Nutrition Facts Table based on recipe. The same software can also create a camera-ready Nutrition Facts Table in multiple formats (standard, tabular, etc). The table can be created and formatted based on lab testing report and/or recipe.

HEALTH/NUTRIENT CONTENT CLAIMS
Heavily regulated, food and food products bearing health and/or nutrient content claims must be both proven and permitted. Regulators closely control claims, including the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA) in the EU and the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Our food health/nutrient claim testing services make sure that all ingredients are listed and claims verified.

NUTRITION AND COMPOSITION ANALYSIS
Our food nutrition analysis determines the nutritional content of food products, supporting product claims and ensuring compliance with food industry regulations.

We can perform nutritional and composition analysis for fats, carbohydrates, food additives, lipo-soluble and hydro-soluble vitamins, vitamin-like substances, minerals and trace elements.

SHELF LIFE TESTING
Combine your label review with confirming information from shelf life testing. Food shelf life testing from SGS helps food manufacturers to comply with statutory or commercial requirements by verifying that products display the appropriate “use by” dates. Our food testing laboratories work with each product throughout its shelf life, with procedures including microbial indicator analysis as well as sensory, physical and chemical testing. All shelf life studies are tailored to your specific needs. With a few questions, we will develop a specific study design to meet your needs based upon your unique product.
GMO LABELING
A particularly complex area, labeling of genetically modified (GMO)/genetically engineered (GE) products is required by some 64 countries, with each country’s requirements being different. Europe has well-established requirements while the USA has recently introduced a federal law requiring the labeling of food and food products containing GMO/GE.

ONE-STOP SERVICE
Choose, one, some or all of the following services to meet your destination market requirements:

- Food label checks in accordance with national/regional requirements
- Translation of relevant information, as prescribed by labeling laws
- Review of translation suggestions
- Reconciliation of requirements between different countries
- Support from label draft to print ready layout including a second review to confirm changes are correct
- Claims verification

Wherever you are based, your food label reviews will be performed in cooperation with food experts for each country to which the product will be sold. This ensures that reviewers are fully conversant with the language, national legal requirements and common practice.

TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION
Innovation is at the heart of our business. New technologies deliver knowledge, insight, transparency and efficiency for our customers.

Label Management System (LMS)
More than 80 SGS affiliates are connected in LMS to work on food labeling orders. All parties receive updates and have full visibility of progress. The application is supported 24/7, allows multilingual input, with Microsoft® Word editing options, follows SGS guidelines and procedures and allows direct communication to all parties. Customers benefit from the speed of food label review orders transmission, the automated process, as well as historical and statistical data maintenance of their orders.

Digicomply
Simplify compliance with access to the constantly evolving pieces of legislation and standards relating to food and agriculture. With a modular architecture, choose different features to transform compliance information into user-friendly actionable knowledge.

SGS BENEFITS
With offices and testing facilities around the world, SGS offers you a truly global/local food label review service that reduces your risk of labeling errors and helps ensure compliance. We strive to deliver outstanding value at every step in your project by providing:

- Rapid turnaround time
- Technical assistance
- Key account management
- Customized service
- Data management and reporting

CONTACT US
- food@sgs.com
- www.sgs.com/food
- SGS Agriculture & Food