



# FOOD LABEL REVIEWS

ENSURE THAT PRODUCTS COMPLY WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LABELLING REGULATIONS

Food label reviews ensure that food and food products comply with national and international regulations for labelling.

In an ever changing regulatory landscape, many of the world's food and food product 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.

Consumers are becoming more health conscious and as a direct result want to know more about the foods they eat. Shoppers are increasingly to be seen reading the labels on food products to help them understand what they contain, and enable them to make informed purchasing decisions.

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.

### ONE-STOP 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.

The consequences of failing to ensure that labels comply with market-specific requirements can be serious; objections from the authorities, product recalls, and re-labelling. All these add costs and damage reputations. 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 labelling
- Label layout, pictures, language and type size compliance
- Health and nutrition claims
- Labelling elements that are required on national basis

### NUTRITIONAL LABELLING

At least 74 countries and trading blocs have some form of nutritional labelling 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 labelling regulations of the country to which the product will be imported. Our experts are competent and knowledgeable of the many and varied country specific requirements.

### 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.

### GMO LABELLING

A particularly complex area, labelling 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 labelling of food and food products containing GMO/GE.

### SGS SERVICES

We offer a one-stop-shop label review 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 labelling 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 co-operation with food experts for each country to which the product will be delivered/ imported. This ensures that reviewers are fully conversant with the language, national legal requirements and common practice.

### ONLINE LABEL REVIEW SERVICES


Our Label Management System (LMS) is a web-based tool that supports our label/artwork review and label/artwork review with translation services. It offers advantages including:

- Simple logging and onward transmission of food label review orders
- Automated notification system
- Online messaging system – to contact label reviewers in different countries
- Label review reports
- History and statistical data for all of your archived work and orders

With offices and testing facilities around the world, SGS offers you a truly global/ local food label review service that reduces your risk of labelling errors and helps ensure compliance.

### CONTACT US

To learn more about SGS' food safety services contact our global team of experts at [food@sgs.com](mailto:food@sgs.com) or visit [www.foodsafety.sgs.com](http://www.foodsafety.sgs.com).

 SGS Agriculture & Food

**SGS IS THE WORLD'S LEADING INSPECTION, VERIFICATION, TESTING AND CERTIFICATION COMPANY**

**WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE**

**SGS**