

## Welcome

**Welcome to the latest edition of TASCCforce which at the end of what has hopefully been a productive harvest period.**

In this edition, we look at the TASCC review which has produced the redrafted TASCC Codes which are now in consultation. The revised codes will be effective from 1st February 2016. Please contact Garry Rudd if you have any comments on this review – this is your chance to provide some input to the process.

Also in this edition there is information about the ICRT (International Committee Road Transport) which will replace the Exclusion and Sensitive list in the new codes. Visit the ICRT website to familiarise yourself with how it works.

We hope you find this latest edition of TASCCforce informative. If you have any questions about the items included or potential articles for future editions, then please contact Garry Rudd via the details on the back page.

## Earned recognition makes progress across the United Kingdom

**Earned Recognition is now in operation with local authorities in England, and VMD (Veterinary Medicines Directorate) in England, Scotland and Wales. This means that, due to their assurance status, TASCC participants will now receive fewer Local Authority and Trading Standards inspections which will ultimately save both time and money for certified TASCC participants.**

The Feed Law Code of Practice is expected to come into force in Wales shortly, and AIC has started discussions with the Food Standards Agency in Scotland to bring into place similar arrangements. AIC will hold regular meetings with the relevant authorities to maintain the relationship and retain this important benefit for being a participant in TASCC and other AIC assurance schemes.

## Know your Customer's Terms and Conditions

**New legislation along with consumer demands is increasing compliance standards on all food and feed supply chains. AIC is continually working with stakeholders to standardise compliance to ensure the supply chain maintains food and feed safety while being practical and efficient for both consumers and TASCC participants.**

Whether you are a TASCC haulier, storekeeper or merchant, it is vital that you know and comply with your customer's terms and conditions (which could include AIC and other industry contracts). Pay particular attention to:

- IDTF Forbidden List
- Allergens
- Naturally Occurring Prohibited Substances (NOPs)
- Mycotoxins
- Health and Safety
- Insurance

Failure to do so may result in rejection, down grading, product recall or site accidents.

It is therefore important that the whole supply chain communicates terms and conditions effectively and that customers are informed where terms and conditions are not or cannot be complied with. Records should be kept of all communications to prevent any non-conformances being raised during TASCC audits.



## Inside

- **Earned Recognition**
- **The International Committee for Road Transport**
- **TASCC code review**
- **AIC Assurance alerts**

## Aflatoxins in Maize

**Aflatoxins are naturally occurring mycotoxins that are produced by *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus parasiticus*, a species of fungi which are found in soil. They are formed in maize in the field during conditions of high moisture and high temperature but can spread during storage.**

AIC has been working with colleagues in Europe to ensure that there is harmonisation on the levels of aflatoxins in maize. All the schemes have their own aflatoxin appendices which have the same guidelines in relation to sampling areas of Europe which pose a low, medium and high risk.

Further information, along with the AIC appendix, can be found on the FEMAS pages of AIC's website along with the FEMAS calculator.



## TASCC Code Review looks to update and meet industry needs

The Draft TASCC codes are now on the AIC website ([www.aictradeassurance.org.uk/tascc/documents/consultation-for-the-tascc-codes-of-practice-effective-1-2-16/](http://www.aictradeassurance.org.uk/tascc/documents/consultation-for-the-tascc-codes-of-practice-effective-1-2-16/)) for the consultation period which ends on Monday 16 November 2016. The codes are written by the industry, for the industry. The TASCC working group has worked hard to ensure that the codes are written so that they are user-friendly while meeting the high level of legislative and customer requirements.



A full list of potential changes can be found on the website but highlights include:

- NEW Renewable Energy Directive (RED) appendix
- Incorporation of the International Coalition for Road transport (ICRT) database which will replace the Exclusion and Sensitive list
- Temporary holding of combinable crops

This revision will be harmonised where possible with the other AIC Feed/ Food schemes (eg UFAS and FEMAS) to ensure similar wording wherever possible. This includes Internal Audits, Staff Training and Complaints/Recall procedures.

**If you have any comments regarding the draft codes, then please contact Garry Rudd.**

## New directory of trailer wash sites

In response to industry requests AIC is in the process of compiling a list of sites offering trailer cleaning services. The Transport Working Group has a list of seven sites so far from which they are ensuring that the following criteria are met:

1. Contact details
2. Do they have a copy of the TASCC COP?
3. Do they understand the principles of cleaning trailers used for food/feed ?
4. Do they keep Records?

5. Do they use food grade disinfectants?
6. Is the cleaning carried out by members of staff or drivers?
7. If members of staff carry out the cleaning, are they fully trained and understand the TASCC COP?

Trailer cleaning companies who fulfil these criteria will be added to the list which will be found on the AIC TASCC website. If you know of any such site, then please contact Garry Rudd who will be pleased to add them to the list.

## Fertilisers produced from burning meat and bone meal

**Fertilisers that are sourced from the bottom ash of incinerators after burning meat & bone meal are to be treated as forbidden/exclusion list materials.**

AIC has held conversations with the VMD (Veterinary Medicines Directorate) which suggests that, although it is safe to go onto land, there are

tiny bone spicules which would require a complete clean down if found in a feed mill. This would cause needless product recalls and cost to the industry. Examples of these products which are manufactured but have bottom ash as a part of the finished product are P-Grow and Kalfos.

## Tractor/trailer weights – remember the March changes

As from 9 March 2015, an agricultural tractor towing an agricultural trailer is now able to travel with a higher combination weight limit of 31 tonnes, an increase from 24.39t. The existing trailer limit of 18.29t remains in place. In terms of speed, agricultural tractors and agricultural trailers which are currently restricted under the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 (as amended) to travelling at 20 miles per hour will be able to travel at 40 kilometres per hour (approximately 25mph).

There is a further consultation to increase the weight again for 2016 along with road worthiness checks for some agricultural tractors. AIC will keep Members and participants informed on progress.

The increases have come into effect because of the capacity for increased weight and speed of modern farming machinery. However, this means that the payload is the same and this has caused confusion both with farmers and at the weighbridge.





# New Europe-wide database for **Excluded and Sensitive Products** launched

**The International Committee for Road Transport (ICRT) has created an International Database Transport (for) Feed and Food – an EU-wide version of the Exclusion and Sensitive Lists for transport assurance certification.**

AIC intends to adopt the database at the next TASC revision in 2016.

The new list is extensive with over 3,000 entries, each with its own cleaning regime. At present, there are one or two minor discrepancies, for instance, the classification and treatment of glass.

“We believe the new database will provide a ‘level playing field’ for assurance schemes across Europe,” says TASC manager Garry Rudd. “To date, discussions with end users has been positive.”

The existing Exclusion and Sensitive lists and the Sensitive List Matrix will still be available in the TASC codes for guidance use only.

The web site for the IDTF is [www.icrt-idtf.com/en/index.php](http://www.icrt-idtf.com/en/index.php)



1 IDTF homepage



2 To search for products enter them into the ‘Search’ box. A drop down below gives the cleaning regime required. From this you could, if you wish, search for all ‘Forbidden/ Excluded’ materials.



3 Provides a further list from which a more accurate description can be found



4 Select on the material you want to get the cleaning regime



5 Clicking on the material will give you further technical data regime

## Assurance alerts

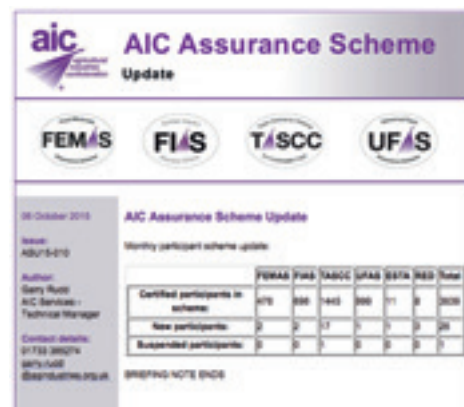
**AIC has been sending Assurance Alerts and Scheme Updates to trade assurance participants over the past two years.**

Assurance alerts provide up to date information on the certification status of participants and are emailed out as and when received. TASCC Scheme rules require participants to inform customers if their status changes. If you find that a participant you use has been suspended, then you will need

to speak to them directly to find out why; AIC cannot provide this information.

Scheme updates (as shown) provide a monthly update of the number of participants either leaving or joining the schemes.

These alerts are seen by the industry as a useful benefit and if you do not receive these free emails, then please contact Garry Rudd at AIC.



**aic AIC Assurance Scheme Update**

From: AIC Services Ltd  
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**AIC Assurance Scheme Update**  
 Monthly participant scheme update:

	FEMAS	FAS	TASCC	UFAS	NETA	RED	Total
Certified participants in scheme	475	356	442	366	11	0	1650
New participants	2	2	1	1	0	0	6
Suspended participants	2	2	2	2	0	0	8

BRIEFING NOTE ENDS

## Lead shot in grain – a growing problem

**Over recent years many primary processors, in particular millers, have been aware of increasing levels of lead shot in grain. This problem appears to be getting worse. There is no clear explanation for shot entering the grain supply chain but the likely explanation is shooting over standing crops or within grain stores. Under no circumstances should shooting be used to control vermin in stores.**

Lead in flour and other food products has serious consequences and is not acceptable. Lead contamination can lead to large quantities of product being 'quarantined' and having to be examined through X-ray machines.

Within the flour milling industry, wholemeal flour and products are at greatest risk from visible contamination, as white flour is put through sieves which remove most visible contamination. However, as lead is soft it can be ground up in the milling processes and may contaminate white flour.

Whilst awareness of the presence of lead shot has increased in recent times, there does not appear to have been any reduction in the frequency of detection. Members and Participants need to ensure their suppliers are equally aware of the issue and the serious implications that arise from lead shot detection which can include costs associated with product recalls and potential loss of business.

## Top Non-conformances

### Haulage

HC.1Ma

### Top 4 Majors

HACCP must be carried out in line with recognised HACCP principles as in Appendix 6

HC.1.1Ma

Establish a HACCP team

HH.1.1Ma

Appropriate training experience etc

HH.1.3Ma

Training reviewed annually and records kept

### Merchant

MC.1.1Ma

### 1 Major Raised

HACCP team

### Storage

SB.3Ma

### Top 3 Majors

Must be registered for feed hygiene regs 183/2005

SE.2.1Ma

New stores must be notified to PAI in writing; id; address; postcode. Await CB response

SG.1.cMa

Bait Stations fixed

### Testing

TE.6.1.aMi

### Top 5 Minor

IQC covered daily where analysis taking place

TE.6.3Mi

IQC balances/dispensers/measuring cylinders checked regularly

TE.7.3Mi

Designated person reviews results

TE6.4Mi

Results outside warning and action lines corrective action taken

TD.2Mi

The designated person must complete the HGCA training tools



**For further information contact:**

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