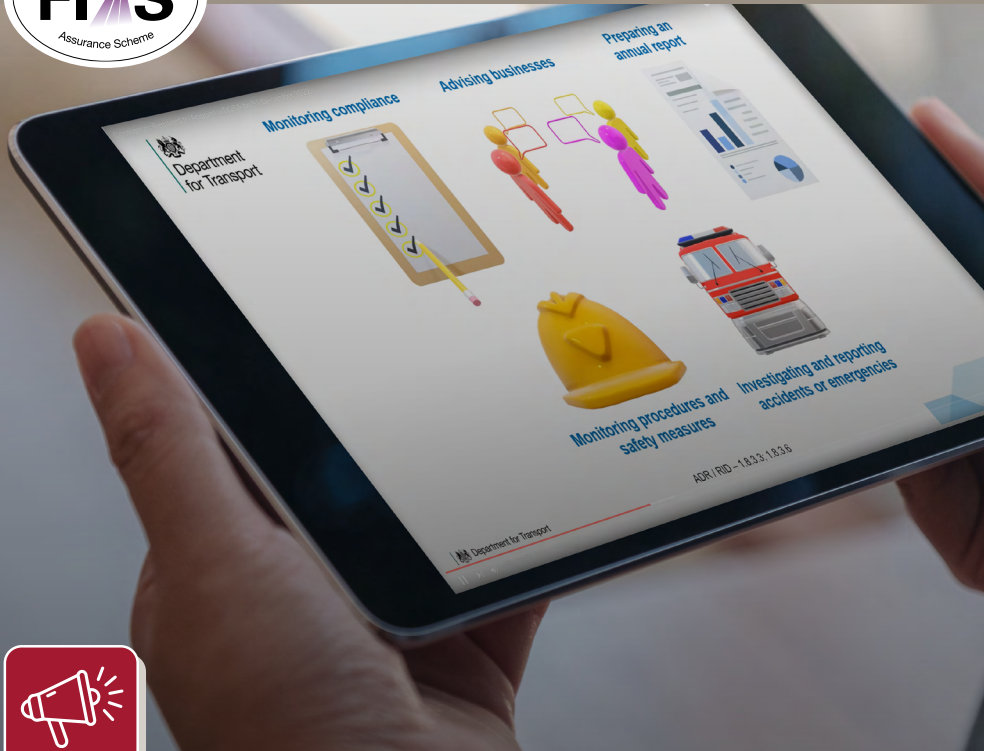


FIAS Update

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FERTILISER INDUSTRY ASSURANCE SCHEME



Welcome

Welcome to the winter 2022 edition of FIAS Update.

In this issue, we look at the approaching deadline for changes to ADR rules, feature the FIAS certification body team and audit process, update on fertiliser security and more.

Please get in touch if you have feedback or suggestions for topics you would like us to cover.

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Roberta Reeve
Technical Manager
for AIC Services

ADR changes coming into force on 1 January 2023

Merchants and agents arranging the transportation of fertilisers classed as dangerous goods need to check whether the ADR requirement to appoint a Dangerous Goods Safety Adviser (DGSA) will apply to them before it takes effect on 1 January 2023.

Who is affected?

ADR 2019 extended the requirement to appoint a DGSA to companies who act as consignors of dangerous goods **including office-based consignors**. To allow businesses time to make changes, the government granted transitional provision until **31 December 2022**.

ADR defines a consignor as *“the enterprise which consigns dangerous goods either on its own behalf or for a third party. If the transport operation is carried out under a contract for carriage, consignor means the consignor according to the contract for carriage.”*

For many FIAS participants, there will be no change, as haulage firms carrying dangerous goods are already required to have a

DGSA. However, FIAS merchants arranging transport for their dangerous goods directly will need to appoint a DGSA by 1 January 2023.

After this point, if the participant does consign transport for dangerous goods, then on their FIAS audit, the auditor will ask to see evidence that a DGSA has been appointed, their certificate and report. A non-conformance would result if the evidence is not available.

Further information:



A DGSA Register of those with experience in the fertiliser industry is available from [AIC](#).

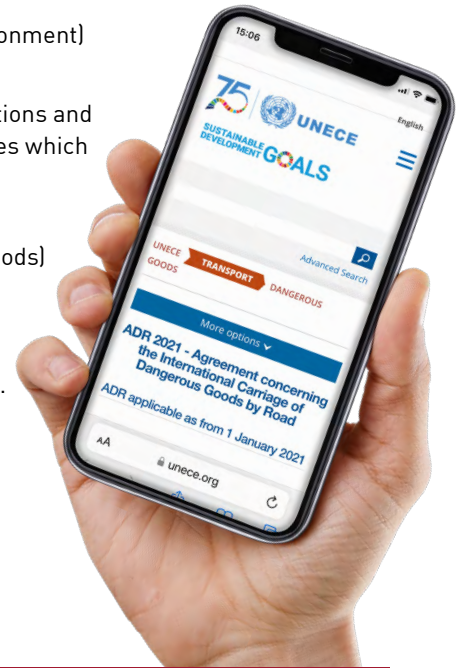
See page 2 for details of what to expect from your DGSA.

What does a DGSA do?

- A DGSA is responsible for helping to prevent the risks (to people, property and the environment) of transporting dangerous goods.
- A DGSA can be an external adviser or an employee, but they must pass written examinations and are then issued with a DfT-approved certificate, which is valid for five years and stipulates which classes of dangerous goods and types of transport the DGSA is qualified to advise on (e.g. Class 5.1, by road).
- Duties include monitoring the company’s compliance with CDG (carriage of dangerous goods) requirements, providing advice, investigating and reporting on accidents, and monitoring the provision of training and advice to staff. The DGSA should also prepare an annual report detailing their assessment of the business’s activities and performance. A full list of DGSA responsibilities is given in Chapter 1.8.3.3 of ADR and can be found [here](#).

What should I do with the advice and records?

- DGSA advice is valuable. Use it in the FIAS business process risk assessment to make sure your business complies with regulations.
- Make sure the report is provided on schedule, read it, and apply recommendations.
- Present the report at your FIAS audit.



AIC launches Trade Assurance Consultant Register (TACR)

AIC has launched TACR in response to requests from the agri-supply industry that advice given to scheme participants should come from registered advisers.

To join the TACR, consultants agree to abide by a professional standards code. Benefits for consultants include up-to-date information relevant to

digital learning, use of the TACR logo, an ID card and promotion of their business to new clients.

Scheme participants benefit from a single list of consultants and services provided for specific trade assurance schemes, direct contact links for consultants and a professional service from advisers in whom they can have

full confidence. Participants can use the register for free. A fee applies for non-AIC Members.

To find a consultant or join the TACR, visit the website:

www.agindustries.org.uk/tacr

For further information, email enquiries-tacr@agindustries.org.uk



Earned Recognition Update

ER relates to an agreement between the Department for Transport and AIC Services for FIAS participants involved in CDG and ADR. As FIAS certification demonstrates compliance, FIAS hauliers may qualify for reduced ADR compliance inspections.

ER relies on DfT being satisfied that the FIAS audit meets compliance requirements via an annual review. To this end, in the summer DfT shadowed a FIAS participant audit, subsequently confirming that the required compliance was achieved. There were useful learning points for both parties too. Further shadow audits will take place next year.



Kiwa Agri Food – meet the FIAS certification body



In this issue our focus is on the FIAS certification body and how the FIAS audit process works.

The team at Kiwa Agri Food, along with auditors, monitor participants' compliance with the FIAS standard and manage the process of certification to that standard.

First, a warm welcome to Marie, our new FIAS Scheme Manager – we're looking forward to getting to know her. Lorraine Chambers will be supporting Marie as she settles into her role.

Marie replaces Jaclyn Redman – our thanks go to Jaclyn for all her support and contribution to the successful operation of the scheme over the last five years. We wish her the very best in her new role.

Meet the Kiwa Team



Marie Beasley
FIAS Scheme Manager
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Marie brings a wealth of knowledge from the world of Quality Systems in the Agri food sector.



Lorraine Chambers
Business Strategy Manager
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Lorraine now supports the sector after being the sector manager for a number of years.



Hattie Lord
Technical Reviewer

Hattie has moved from the farm sector to feed and fertiliser, completing technical reviews and making certification recommendations for FIAS and TASCC.



Andy Chambers
Assessor/Technical Reviewer

Andy has been conducting audits and reviews in FIAS and TASCC and making certification recommendations for the past eight years.

Kiwa's certification process in a nutshell

1

The client completes the relevant application form.

2

The application is reviewed, the scope is agreed and the client receives a quotation and invoice.

3

Once the invoice has been settled the Initial Audit is booked with an Auditor.

4

The audit is completed, and the Auditor raises any action points, along with a timeframe.

5

Technical Reviewers carry out a two-stage review of the audit report to ensure all areas are complete.

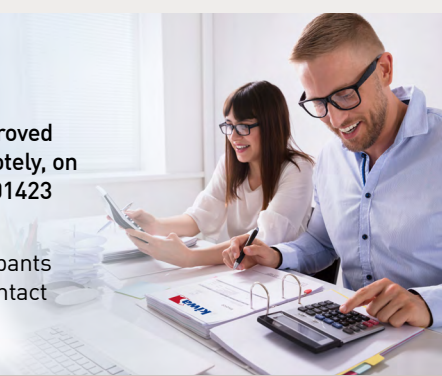
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Once all actions are closed, a certificate is issued to the client.

Kiwa training update

Kiwa's Northern Training Hub in Harrogate is now open and running the JAUPT-approved FIAS Driving CPC Training, worth 7 CPC hours. These courses can be delivered remotely, on site or at Kiwa venues. For more information and to book, contact Kiwa Training on 01423 878875 or email uk.training@kiwa.com

Kiwa manage the FIAS i-learning modules and operate the audit portal where participants can upload documents and access audit reports. For FIAS i-learning log-in details contact uk.fias@kiwa.com





Fertiliser security and safety: Protect UK, the new home for fertiliser security advice

Following a government website update, the fertiliser security five-point plan has been moved to the Protect UK website, a new central hub for counter-terrorism and security advice for all industry and public sectors.

This means that specific fertiliser security advice has moved from secureyourfertiliser.gov.uk to www.protectuk.police.uk. If you visit the ProtectUK site and search for "fertiliser", a list of relevant information for fertiliser security appears, including the **five-point plan** for safe storage of nitrogen fertilisers.

We know that many FIAS participants refer customers to this five-point plan, so please ensure your teams are aware of the website change, and that any documents include up-to-date web references. A request has been made to reinstate the direct link.

Speaking of ProtectUK, both their website and app have a great deal of information about security issues and counter-terrorism guidance on things like threat levels, cyber security, insider threat, incident reporting and links to ACT Awareness digital learning. We recommend that all FIAS participants create an account to receive regular updates. The ProtectUK app can be downloaded from Google Play or Apple's App Store.

ProtectUK



Red Tractor standard

In November 2021, Red Tractor Farm Assurance issued new standards including a clause referencing FIAS:

EC9.5 Documentary evidence must be kept which demonstrates that manufactured fertiliser is responsibly sourced and traceable e.g. from a Fertiliser Industry Assurance Scheme (FIAS) approved supplier.

Red Tractor told the FIAS Steering Group that in general this clause has been met. Non-conformances arose from farms not having evidence of supplier although this was provided quickly post-audit". FIAS participants are reporting that more customers are asking for a copy of their FIAS certificate.

To pre-empt these requests, participants may wish to direct customers to the [trade assurance checker](#), for FIAS certificate status information. It could be as simple as adding details to the order confirmation or delivery documentation.

Red Tractor has also reported that the occurrence of farms storing urea and ammonium nitrate together has increased. Awareness of this risk is patchy, as farms may historically have used only one type but now, due to cost, have changed their approach.

Storage of urea and ammonium nitrate in proximity could result in an accident or damage to property. Red Tractor is issuing best-practice advice to their member farms, and FIAS participants are asked to support this by providing customers with safe storage information.

For more information, see AIC's [The Storage, Handling and Transportation of Ammonium Nitrate-Based Fertilisers](#), available from the AIC website.

As we move into winter and towards the busy spring season, stocks of fertiliser on farm are varying from low to very high as farmers decide when to buy. Remember to be vigilant, carry out regular stock takes and ensure store security. Report any suspicious activity or thefts from fertiliser storage buildings to the police by phoning 101.

Kiwa auditor training day

In October Kiwa held an in-person auditor training day in Harrogate, covering a variety of topics including scheme news, project updates and developments. It provided a welcome opportunity to come together for the first time since before Covid. FIAS scheme-specific training is planned for early 2023.



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