



Launch of the ICRT database

The International Committee for Road Transport or ICRT was founded in 2007 by the organizations OVOCOM (Belgium), GMP+ International (The Netherlands) and Qualimat (France), with QS (Germany) joining in 2009.

For the purpose of assurance of feed safety within the animal feed sector, these 4 members strive for harmonization of requirements for bulk road transport of products intended for animal feed. This committee, composed of experts, is mainly working on classification of transported products and determination of cleaning regimes necessary to assure safe feed transport. This is done based on the possible hazards these products may transfer to the feed chain. The complete list of products is registered and maintained in a database. Products which are not classified are forbidden for transport in loading compartments used for transport of animal feed.

The 4 organizations wanted to publish this database online to facilitate the determination of the correct combination “transported product / minimum cleaning regime” to be applied for the companies who are operating at an international level.

This goal was finally achieved on 17/04/2012 with the official launch of the database IDTF (*International Database Transport (for) Feed*) available in 4 languages (FR, NL, EN, DE). Qualimat-Transport is currently working on the adjustments of its part of the database, which is expected to be ready by 30/6/2012.

All companies that work according to one of the 3 certification schemes (GMP, GMP+ FSA and QS) can now consult this database, containing at least 3330 products, of which approximately 2200 additives, and determine minimum cleaning regime required after the transport of one of these products with the help of the database.

User manuals are available in the 4 languages, to guide the user in the process of consulting the details. The assessment of certain products differs somewhat between certification schemes, mainly due to various national legislations. These differences are clearly visible in the database. The website also has a tool that allows for product lists to be custom made allowing any company who wishes to do so to obtain specific information for the products they deal with.

The companies are invited to use this new tool from now on, by consulting the website devoted to this: <http://www.icrt-idtf.com/>

What does this mean to GMP+ certified companies?

- Within 2 months this database will replace the currently available database on the website of GMP+ International. Cleaning regimes of some products are amended due to further harmonization of the cleaning regimes between 4 member organizations:
 - Ball clay B→A
 - Bentonite B→A
 - Bleached earth (not used) B→A
 - Ferro-Chrome affine C→B
 - Potassium hydroxide C→B
 - Pentapotassium tripolyphosphate C→B
 - Magnesium chloride solution B→C

- Sodium hydroxide C→B
 - Nitric acid C→B
 - Tripolyphosphate C→B
 - Urea - Formaldehyde Resin D→C
 - Vaseline B→C
 - Zeolite B→A
- GMP+ certified companies may apply the new cleaning regimes as of today. Starting from 17/06/2012 the new cleaning regimes will be obliged.
 - As already announced in normative documents, the loading categories are no longer used (LR1, LR2, LR3, LR4).
 - The unique GMP-identification number is replaced by the IDTF-number.
 - Further requirements for cleaning, disinfection and loading sequence in the road transport, as well as the procedure for (re)classification of products and release procedure for loading compartments, previously set in GMP+ BA14 Minimum Requirements for Road Transport, are now published on the new website under "Procedures". Over time the ICRT will provide more useful background information on certified road transport on this website.
 - Also the cleaning regimes for short sea shipping and inland waterways transport will be published soon in the IDTF.

Despite the frequent checks and inspections, it is always possible that a certain issue or error has remained in the system. Therefore, we invite all companies who find an error or issue, to report this to Lisa.Kraemer@q-s.de. Do you have any suggestion on how we can further improve the database? We would be glad to hear that from you!