FAQ GMP+ Country Note – Central and Eastern Europe

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GMP+ Feed Certification Scheme
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1 General

1.1 What is in this Country Note (CN)?
This Country Note (CN) contains several specific requirements for assuring the safety of compound feed and premixes. The specific requirements are mainly focused on procurement and production. In addition, specific labeling requirements have been included.

1.2 Whom is this Country Note intended for?
This Country Note (CN) is intended for companies located in one of the following Central and East European countries: Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine or Poland. The Country Note must be used in combination with the scope ‘production of compound feed’ or ‘production of premixes’ from the GMP+ B1 standard. The compound feed and premixes made based on the requirements in this CN, can only be sold to the local market.

1.3 Can companies in other Central and East European countries apply this Country Note as well?
Not just like that. But GMP+ International does understand that companies in other Central and East European countries are also interested in applying this CN to obtain a GMP+ certificate.
To that end, permission (an exemption) must be granted by GMP+ International. GMP+ International aims to make agreements with trade associations in these countries. In these agreements, the vision and the objectives of GMP+ International must be supported at the least. In addition, it should preferably include an action plan to implement feed safety assurance.

1.4 Why was this Country Note created?
This Country Note allows compound feed and premix companies in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine and Poland to participate in the GMP+ FC scheme. With a GMP+ certificate they can demonstrate to customers and other market parties that they control the feed safety.
It was found that, in these Central and East European countries, it is extremely difficult to meet certain requirements in the GMP+ B1 standard. The Country Note contains several specific requirements which can be applied by a company to be able to guarantee a high level of feed safety regardless of this.

1.5 How was this Country Note created?
This Country Note (CN) was created in close consultation with representatives of compound feed and premix companies and with consultants and auditors from the relevant countries. Together with them, it was attempted to draw up the specific requirements, allowing companies in said countries to participate in the GMP+ FC scheme.
Over the past months, this CN was also tested in practice in terms of clarity, feasibility and testability of the requirements.
2 Certification

2.1 How does one get certified for this Country Note?

A feed safety management system allows one to demonstrate that the requirements from this Country Note are complied with. A qualified auditor – who works for a certification body approved by GMP+ International – can test this during an audit, in which the requirements for the relevant scopes from the GMP+ B1 standard are audited as well.

An additional scope will be listed on the certificate and in the GMP+ customer database. More information about this is available in chapter 2.2 and 2.3 of the Country Note.

3 General requirements

3.1 What do the specific requirements in this Country Note focus on?

These focus on 2 topics:

1) Purchasing: Several specific options have been included for purchasing feed materials. This mainly concerns feed materials for which the GMP+ FC scheme strictly dictates that they may only be purchased from certified producers. In general, this concerns byproducts released during a production or processing process, and that are used as feed material. For instance: byproducts of the oil (seed) and starch industry, of the sugar and alcohol industry, of the fats and oil processing industry and of other industries in which byproducts are released that are used as feed materials.

2) Production: it is possible to exclude part of the production from GMP+ certification.

3) Compound feed and premixes that fall under the CN, must be labeled separately.

See the Country Note (CN) for more information.

3.2 What is meant by the term ‘local market’?

The term ‘local market’ covers the territory of the 4 countries for which this Country Note (CN) was made (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine and Poland). However, deliveries to livestock farmers in neighboring countries (such as Hungary and Belarus) are possible, as long as these do not concern deliveries to West European countries.

It should be considered however that the Country Note is specifically meant to be applied to the production of safe compound feed and premixes, intended for the local market. This is in accordance with the wish of the companies who wish to actively work on further improvement of the feed safety assurance.