

NORDENIA Harmonizes its Hygiene Standards Across Europe

Integrated Management Systems: Product Safety of Utmost Importance

Greven, June 18, 2009. The customer expects consistent hygiene management from packaging manufacturers. At the same time, the current demands on a consistent hygiene management system must be integrated into the suppliers' internal processes. NORDENIA INTERNATIONAL AG, an international manufacturer of flexible packaging, technical films, and product components, is to receive certification in accordance with the new norm DIN EN 15593 ("Hygiene management in the production of packaging for foodstuffs") for the sites at which packaging for food, pet food, and hygiene products is produced. Integration into the existing management system is being systematically taken into account.

"The great advantage for our customers is that we can achieve consistent and therefore comparable hygiene standards for all European plants with this norm," explains Kornelia Hilla, Integrated Management Systems Manager at NORDENIA. The new norm contains all requirements demanded of comprehensive hygiene management systems today. It shapes the requirements very precisely and covers all of the former BRC/IoP standard's requirements. NORDENIA has now received certification for the new norm at three of its German plants (Gronau, Halle and Steinfeld). Four other European sites (Osterburken/Germany, Barcelona/Spain, Poznan/Poland and Szada/Hungary) are working on the initial certification in accordance with DIN EN 15593:2008.

In 2007, NORDENIA DEUTSCHLAND Halle, Plant Steinfeld, specialist in the development and manufacturing of stand-up pouches for the pet food and food industry, was the first company in Germany to receive certification for its hygiene standards in accordance with the new norm. The Steinfeld site's hygiene management has once again been successfully surveyed. The NORDENIA plants in Gronau and Halle have received the commendation for the first time.

"As the new norm follows quality management in accordance with ISO 9001, we can simply implement it into our existing management systems thus conducting hygiene management more efficiently and cost-effectively," explains Hilla.

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Altogether, the integrated management systems are a guarantee for the continuous improvement of products and processes, taking into account the following aspects: quality, environment, hygiene, and labor safety. Due to the merging of the individual management systems, the bundling of resources, and the utilization of synergies, leaner, more efficient management is possible.

The implementation and fulfillment of all hygiene requirements also supports compliance with EU regulations for packaging which comes into contact with food and with Good Manufacturing Practices (quality assurance in production processes), all of which play an important role in the production of hygiene-sensitive packaging. With the aid of an SAP-based food contact system, the relevant product-related data and information relating to the legal conformity of the products can be documented. In doing so, NORDENIA offers its customers procedures which meet especially high quality and safety requirements.

NORDENIA succeeds in consistently taking on a pioneering role and setting the course above and beyond the legal requirements. At the recent certification of the NORDENIA Gronau site, the German Association for the Certification of Management Systems (DQS) in particular acknowledged the printing department as "exemplary" and labeled it a "benchmark in the sector".

Caption (nordenia_mycup.jpg)

Perfect hygiene: Above all, packaging for food, but also for pet food must satisfy the highest hygiene demands. Film manufacturers such as NORDENIA INTERNATIONAL AG are thereby responsible for the products as well as for the verification process during manufacturing, and for the documentation of the test results.

NORDENIA Worldwide

NORDENIA INTERNATIONAL AG is an international manufacturer of flexible packaging, technical films, and product components. The NORDENIA INTERNATIONAL AG management headquarters are located in Greven in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia in Germany. The entire Group's strategic processes and product development are concentrated in NORDENIA TECHNOLOGIES GmbH. Approximately 3,000 employees work for the films company. The company's common principles (shared values) are the basis for their actions. By adopting the seven shared values, Flexibility,

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