


# Savoury Flavours Ltd

The Flavours to Savour

UNITS 2B/C, RIVERSIDE AVENUE WEST, LAWFORD, MANNINGTREE, ESSEX CO11 1UN TEL : 01206 393540 FAX : 01206 393345

## POSITION STATEMENT

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### **Sudan dye contamination of certain imported ground spices**

Since July 2003 all chilli products imported into the EU have had to be accompanied by certificates of analysis showing absence of Sudan dyes. We buy chilli powder and cayenne pepper under these rules, and require certificates of analysis to accompany all incoming consignments. Following the recent recalls in the UK as a result of contaminated Worcester Sauce, as part of our due diligence program, we have decided to increase our purchase batch sizes and take samples ourselves for confirmatory analysis. Until further notice, we shall sample every incoming batch in this way. Copies of the certificates of analysis confirming absence of Sudan dyes in these raw materials will be supplied to customers on request.

The extension of the regulation to cover imports of turmeric and virgin palm oil was only announced by the EU on 4 April 2005, and details of the Commission Decision have still not been published in the Official Journal as far as we know. However, our understanding from the FSA is that the requirement will cover ground turmeric imported as such into the EU, not turmeric imported as whole root. We use three turmeric ingredients, one of which is ground in the UK and is thus not covered. However, again as part of our due diligence program, we have decided to do our own confirmatory analyses (certificate copies will be available on request). We also use small quantities of turmeric oleoresin and extract, which our suppliers will have analysed. Our future purchases will be certificated by the suppliers, and we will be able to supply copies on request.

We use no palm oil directly, and one ingredient that contains refined palm oil (which is not implicated).

Background information on this subject can be found on the FSA website at <http://www.food.gov.uk/safereating/sudani/>

We hope this gives you all the information you need, but don't hesitate to contact us if you have any query.

E-mail [support@savouryflavours.co.uk](mailto:support@savouryflavours.co.uk) or telephone us on +44 (0)1206 393540