


# Savoury Flavours Ltd

The Flavours to Savour

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## POSITION STATEMENT

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### Sudan dyes

Since 2003 there have been a number of alerts raised in Europe about the contamination of imported chilli powders with Sudan dyes. Most recently this resulted in a large number of recalls in the UK during February 2005. Savoury Flavours was fortunate not to be involved in these recalls, but as part of our due diligence programme since then, we have been subjecting all incoming batches of chilli powder and ground cayenne to analysis to confirm our suppliers' certificates of absence.

### Para Red in Paprika

Two weeks ago ground paprika originating from Uzbekistan, and imported into the EU by Sabater in Spain was found to have been contaminated with another dye Para Red. Again Savoury Flavours was fortunate not to have been a customer of Sabater (or its customers) for paprika. Again as part of our due diligence programme, we have instituted testing of all incoming batches of ground paprika to analyse to confirm our suppliers' certification of absence of Para Red

### Para Red in Chilli Powder

This week it has become apparent that some batches of chilli powder have been found to be contaminated with Para Red. This is the first contamination of chilli powder with Para Red (rather than Sudan dyes) that we are aware of. We have now decided to sample **all** incoming batches of chilli, cayenne, paprika and turmeric, and have them analysed for Sudan dyes and Para Red. We will not release them into production until we have confirmation of absence of all these dyes. We have today sent out samples of all our existing stock batches of these materials to satisfy ourselves of their uncontaminated status (and corroborate our suppliers' assurances).

### Rhodamine B, Orange II and others

We also understand that other illegal dyes have been found in supplies of spices elsewhere in the EU. Validated methods for analysing for these dyes are only now being developed by Campden and others. Should these dyes become issues of concern, we shall add them to our analysis programme as soon as appropriate methodology becomes reliable.

We hope the above measures give you confidence in our determination to supply wholesome and legal products during this difficult period. Please not hesitate to contact us should you need further information:

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