

Additional and Revised LACORS Guidance on Claims Applied to Infant Formula

04/01/2007

LACORS ( LACOTS ) issued guidance on the Infant Formula and Follow-on Formula Regulations 1995 dated 27 June 1997. These UK Regulations implement EC Directive 91/321/EEC.

LACORS is now providing important additional advice to supplement that in the 1997 version in relation to Section 8 : Claims, following recent discussions with the Food Standards Agency.

The following statements should be read in conjunction with the 1997 guidance note, and are inserted after Paragraph 8.1

#### IMPORTANT NOTE :

Article 7 ( 6 ) of 91/321/EEC indicates that “ The labelling may only bear claims concerning the special composition of an infant formula only in the cases listed in Annex IV and in accordance with the conditions laid down therein “. The claims listed in Annex IV relate to : adapted protein; low sodium; sucrose free; lactose only; iron enriched and reduction of risk to allergy to milk proteins which may include terms referring to reduced allergen or reduced antigen properties. These claims concern nutritional properties or health effects of ingredients, nutrients or the formula as a whole.

Any claim like those listed in Annex IV of Directive 91/321/EEC ( ie claims related to nutrition or health/functional properties of one or more components of formula, or the formula as a whole ) is considered to be a claim relating to the “ composition “ or “ special composition “ of infant formula.

Some examples of claims which are therefore non-compliant with Regulation 13 ( 3 ) of the UK Infant Formula and Follow-on Formula Regulations 1995 are given below :

- Omega 3 LCPs for development
- Nucleotides help growth and the immune system
- Beta-carotene helps the immune system
- Prebiotics supporting baby’s natural defences
- Closer than ever to breast milk

Home Authority and Enforcement Officers will wish to take this guidance into account when advising businesses

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