



# Pet Food Safety & Quality Assurance

Knowledge Inspired,  
Quality Driven.

**SGS**

# Improve Efficiency, Reduce Risk

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According to a recent survey conducted by the American Pet Products Association, 66% of U.S. households, or about 86.9 million families, own a pet. As the pet market continues to grow, pet food companies and retailers need to meet the demand for safe, high quality pet food.

The success of your product depends on some key factors:

- The selection of quality raw ingredients
- Formulations and production methods
- The nutritional requirements of pets
- The selection criteria of the retailers

Whether you are a processor, a manufacturer, a distributor, or a retailer, SGS can deliver industry knowledge, quality, and compliance. Our range of services specific for the pet food sector, can help you remove barriers, protect your brand, provide new market opportunities and keep you ahead of the competition.

Manufacturers must  
adopt a proactive  
approach to supply  
chain vigilance to build  
consumer trust and  
ensure regulatory  
compliance.



# Testing & Analysis

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Pet food testing ensures product quality and compliance with the standards of the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) and regulations of government bodies. We can independently monitor both national and international raw ingredient suppliers and analyze pet food products according to specific criteria. Our experts are familiar with international and national regulations and our laboratories are ISO 17025 accredited.

We can help you to enforce strict specifications for raw ingredient supplies by performing routine testing of all incoming ingredients and implementing vendor assurance programs.

Our Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) improves the productivity and efficiency of laboratory operations. SGS LIMS enables automation and instrument integration, reducing turnaround time and human error. Test results can be accessible 24/7 via a web portal.



### Microbiological testing:

- *Salmonella*
- *Listeria*
- *Campylobacter*
- Aerobic Plate Count
- *Enterobacteriaceae*
- *Staphylococcus aureus*
- *Clostridium perfringens*
- *E. coli*
- Total coliforms
- Yeast and mold count

### Contaminants:

- Mycotoxins
- Heavy metals
- Pesticide residues
- Antibiotic residues
- Dioxins and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
- Sulfite
- PFAS

### Nutrition:

- AAFCO Guaranteed Analysis
- Proximates
- Carbohydrates
- Amino acids
- Fatty acids
- Fats and oils
- Elemental analysis
- Vitamins

### Label Claims:

- Allergens
- GMOs
- Species ID

# Audit, Certification & Training

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We offer the broadest range of food safety, quality, environmental, social, sustainability and supply chain services. Our experts can help you comply with complex legislation in accordance with the FDA, customer requirements, state regulations, Health Canada, and CFIA. We can also help you develop systems that can be updated for incorporation into your good manufacturing practices (GMPs) and quality assurance program.

Certification and/or auditing services include but are not limited to:

- GFSI-recognized standards including BRCGS, FSSC 22000 and Safe Quality Food (SQF)
- GMP and HACCP
- Gluten-free certification schemes
- ISO 22000, ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001
- Non-GMO and No GE
- SMETA, social audits and sustainability programs
- Customized and 2nd party audits
- Integrated or combined audits

## Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)

We are recognized under the U.S. FDA's TPP (Accredited Third-Party Certification) rule to conduct facility food safety certification. The SGS QIC (Qualified Importer Certification) scheme is developed for this purpose, to certify foreign suppliers and help U.S. importers meet the eligibility criteria of VQIP (Voluntary Qualified Importer Program). For foreign suppliers looking for evidence of compliance, SGS offers FSMA FSVP certification. The scheme is based on US food regulations and is accredited by ANSI.



## SGS Academy

As the global leader in professional training, we provide innovative learning and development solutions, covering multiple areas and industries, tailored to meet your needs in public, onsite and virtual formats. Our portfolio covers everything from BRCGS, FSSC 22000 Food Safety System Certification and FSMA, to GMP and HACCP training, food safety risk management, traceability, hygiene, regulation, food safety culture and more.


We also offer Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance (FSPCA) Preventive Controls Qualified Individual (PCQI) training courses including the FSPCA Preventative Controls for Animal Food Training. Upon successful completion, learners will receive an official FSPCA PCQI certificate issued by the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO).

# Safety & Regulatory Services

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To help you get your pet food or animal supplement to market quickly and efficiently, SGS Nutrasource provides guidance and scientific research in the areas of animal nutrition, animal health and veterinary medicine including:

- Claim Substantiation for Ingredients and Finished Products
- Independent and FDA-CVM Notified GRAS Dossiers
- AAFCO Ingredient Definition Submissions
- Food Additive Petitions
- Veterinary Health Product (VHP) Notifications to Health Canada
- IP Protection Strategies
- Safety and Utility Trials for Animal Feed Ingredients
- Efficacy and Tolerability Trials for Pet Supplements
- Branded Ingredient Strategies
- Preclinical Safety Study Oversight
- Marketing Whitepapers and Content for Websites/Sales
- Globally Relevant Safety Study Design and Execution
- Laboratory Based Third-Party Certifications

A photograph of a food processing facility. In the foreground, a large metal tray is filled with numerous small, golden-brown, irregularly shaped food items, possibly nuggets or dumplings. In the background, several workers are visible, wearing white protective suits, blue aprons, white face masks, and blue gloves. They are working at a long table or conveyor belt, handling the food items. The environment is brightly lit with overhead fluorescent lights. The overall scene conveys a sense of hygiene and industrial food production.

Ensure that products intended for pets and food-producing animals meet compliance requirements for ingredient content, product claims and risk to human and animal health.

# Technical & Tailored Solutions

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SGS can help you make sense of pet food safety in a world where regulations are continuously evolving and are not always clearly defined. We've created innovative technologies to help you manage quality, safety and profitability across your supply chain.

## Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP)

At times, pathogens are hidden in equipment and other areas of a processing facility, where they cannot be eliminated by routine sanitation. Therefore, monitoring the hygienic environment of a manufacturing facility is critical for the production of safe, high quality pet food. Our experts will help you to design and implement an EMP specific for your organization, including sampling and zones, data management and advanced investigation.

## SGS Digicomply

Simplify compliance with access to the constantly evolving pieces of legislation and standards relating to food and agriculture. Our powerful content management platform transforms compliance data into user-friendly actionable knowledge. It combines high technology with human expertise to sort and classify multiple data sources into one coherent data feed that's specific to your needs.

## Food Label Reviews

Food label reviews ensure that food and food products comply with national and international regulations for labeling and content. Our food nutrition and labeling specialists can review labels against all relevant criteria, including:

- Allergen compliance
- Health and nutritional adequacy content claims
- GMO/GE labeling requirements
- Identity statement
- Ingredient labeling
- Label layout
- Net quantity statement
- Guaranteed analysis
- Feeding directions
- Place and name of business
- Calorie statement



## Tailored Solutions

We can help you build the system to comply and help you get the product on the market in a faster, more effective way by:

- Streamlining processes to optimize operations
- Risk analysis and risk management
- Helping you implement best practices

Whether you need a gap assessment, technical support or even documentation development, our team can provide customized options that fit your specific business needs.

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Contact us

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When you need to be sure