

Quality Policy

Requirements as per norms and standards demand a well-communicated quality policy. esco hereby wishes to present to its employees

- The extract of “Our Quality Policy” from the quality management handbook,
- A confirmation from the board of management and
- Information on the approved, basic compliance and performance principles.

Our Quality Policy

Building on our scientific, technical and commercial know-how and experience, our quest is to strengthen our leading position in the European market.

Salt is our core business in which we will invest and which we will further develop.

On the basis of existing legal guidelines and with regard to social and environmental needs, we responsibly provide top quality salt products and services that create ever-increasing value for our customers, shareholders and employees.

The quality of our products and services, product safety (HACCP) as well as consumer protection (from GMP, IFS, BRC, GMP+, QS and EU regulations and national legislations), especially in case of pharmaceutical salt and food and animal food products, are of utmost importance.

Our processes are tested and assessed; they are designed to ensure the quality of our products and to constantly improve our QM system.

The basis of our success is scientific, technical and commercial expertise.

Confirmation from the Board of Management

The board of management of esco confirms,

- that it has implemented appropriate quality assurance and abides by it and regards this as mandatory in order to be able to ensure product safety for humans, animals and environment not only at present but also in the future;
- that it will do all that is necessary to ensure that production conditions of the company - which is under their administration – always fulfil requirements of the legal and subordinate norms, as well as those stated in the regulations for pharmaceutical salt and food and animal food products;

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- that it is aware of the fact that careful quality assurance is indispensable for preventing mishaps, and thereby, for eliminating any aftermaths for the buyer as well as for further stages of production and trade;
- that it will responsibly set up and implement optimum quality assurance by ensuring that within the company, proper foundations for an optimal implementation of the required measures are laid and by giving high priority to creating quality awareness among all concerned employees of the company;
- that it is aware of the fact that there is or can be a public liability on account of the legal situation;
- having employed a quality representative for every eligible production plant, who has to ensure that quality assurance - that has been designed as per regulations for pharmaceutical salt and food and animal food products - has been carried out properly. The quality representative is authorised - upon consultation with the board of management if necessary - to make binding dispositions for the other employees, with the intention of carrying out measures required for quality assurance and to correct or eliminate any flaws.

Compliance and Conduct Principles

Our high entrepreneurial competence in our business fields is acknowledged by our customers and partners. To retain and develop this further is a big challenge for us. For this, an everlasting attitude of integrity and awareness of responsibility is required from every single employee.

When offences are committed, it is not only the employee who has to face the corresponding legal consequences; our company also has to bear considerable financial loss along with loss of face. Misconduct due to ignorance can tarnish our reputation with customers, partners and the public. On account of this, principles of conduct have been formulated and internally approved.

As basic, legal and responsible conduct can be naturally expected, the conduct principles do not contain any regulations that are considerably different, but only supplement our most important basic values of corporate policy and summarise the basic legal and ethical duties, adherence to which is expected from every single employee.

The conduct principles cannot concretely cover every possible situation that can occur during the course of a typical working day. Hence, in addition to these principles, every employee should know and follow the legal conditions that concern his work.

Whenever an employee doubts if his own or someone else's conduct is not consistent with these principles, we expect that he seek the advice and help of his senior.

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Basic Principle for implementing Social Standards

- Social Accountability (SA 8000)
- International Labor Organisation (ILO)

Respect for human rights is a basic elementary principle of human co-existence and is something that is quite natural to esco. Inhuman work conduct and work conditions contradict this basic principle and are, in case of esco, definitively barred.

The SA 8000 Standard is a concept, which defines social responsibility towards employees, suppliers, customers and the society and which is fulfilled by esco. It serves discrimination of environmentally sound and socially fair products and products that exploit nature and ignore the work and living conditions of people.

Contractors of esco guarantee that products supplied and traded by them are manufactured taking into account human rights, commitment to sustainability and adherence to internationally accepted work standards as per basic work norms of ILO (International Labor Organisation).

Hannover, January 2007



Erich Krug

Board of Management of esco – european salt company GmbH & Co. KG



Reinhard Dust