



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
 DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Deputy Director General, in charge of Directorates A, B and C

Brussels,  
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[redacted]

Thank you for your email of 30 May 2017. According to my understanding of your enquiries, you ask firstly whether the EU organic logo and organic code number of the manufacturer of "bioorganic products for animals" can be used by your distribution company under your company's brand name. Your second question concerns whether your company, as a distributor of a new product - bone broth produced in a factory for products for human consumption - is required to have its own organic registration number (in which case where to apply for it), or whether that of the manufacturer is to be used.

Please note that a product using terms referring to organic production must adhere to Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007<sup>1</sup> and Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 which lay out the rules on organic production and labelling of organic products.

According to Article 28(1) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 *"Any operator who produces, prepares, stores [...] or who places such products on the market shall, prior to placing on the market of any products as organic [...]: (a) notify his activity to the competent authorities of the Member State where the activity is carried out; (b) submit his undertaking to the control system referred to in Article 27."* In addition, the last paragraph of the referred provision states that *"where an operator contracts out any of the activities to a third party, that operator shall nonetheless be subject to the requirements referred to in points (a) and (b), and the subcontracted activities shall be subject to the control system."* Therefore, both the producer and the distributor who "places the product on the market" must adhere to the organic control system. A list of the EU Competent Authorities per Member state can be found on the following link: [http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/consumer-trust/certification-and-confidence/controls-and-inspections/control-system\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/consumer-trust/certification-and-confidence/controls-and-inspections/control-system_en).

Regarding use of code numbers, in accordance with Article 24(1)(a) of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 it is compulsory to indicate *"the code number of the control body/control authority to which the operator who has carried out the most recent production or preparation<sup>2</sup> operation is subject".* Therefore, the code number of the control body or control authority carrying out the control of the final stage of preparation

<sup>1</sup> [Council Regulation \(EC\) No 834/2007 of 28 June 2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Regulation \(EEC\) No 2092/91, OJ L 189, 20.7.2007, p. 1–23](#)

<sup>2</sup> Article 2(i) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 'preparation' means the operations of preserving and/or processing of organic products, including slaughter and cutting for livestock products, and also packaging, labelling and/or alterations made to the labelling concerning the organic production method;

- for instance labelling or alteration of the labelling - has to appear in the labelling of the product, irrespective of the legal ownership of the product during the labelling process.

Regarding use of the EU organic logo, according to Article 24 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008<sup>3</sup> the use of the logo is compulsory for all organic pre-packaged food produced within the European Union. The same article provides that where the logo is used, an indication of the place where the agricultural product was farmed must also be given. In other words, the code number of control bodies must appear on all organic products, whether the logo is used or not. Where the logo is used, the place of farming is also compulsory.

Further detailed information on the organic logo can be found under Articles 57 and 58 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008. I also invite you to visit our website which gives general information on the EU organic production policy including downloadable graphic examples of the logo: [https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/downloads/logo\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/downloads/logo_en)

I trust that I have been able to reply to your questions,

Yours sincerely,



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<sup>3</sup> [Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 889/2008 of 5 September 2008 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation \(EC\) No 834/2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products with regard to organic production, labelling and control. OJ L 250, 18.9.2008](#)