



Implementation of the compartment concept by the French authorities  
influenza within avian genetics industry

Attachment:

Annex 1: Approved compartments

In order to allow exports to be maintained and food safety to be ensured, Chapter 4.3 of the terrestrial code of World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) makes a distinction between zoning — which is based on a geographical definition of a zone — and compartmentalization which brings together, within a compartment, a group of holdings implementing identical biosecurity measures with the guarantee that no pathogenic agents are introduced.

French authorities initiated a process to officially approve compartments in the poultry industry, based on the principles laid down in the WTO agreements and on the OIE rules, more specifically on the provisions included in Chapter 4.3 of the Terrestrial Code which provide a specific definition of the modalities to be complied with when implementing compartmentalization.

1. Principles presiding over the official approval of compartments in the poultry genetic industry by the French veterinary services.

French animal health authorities consider that a compartment should meet high health requirements in order to guarantee that the different sectors within the compartment are high and low pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI and LPAI) free and that the products from the compartment are safe (chicks or other day-old birds, hatching eggs). Such high requirement level is materialized by the issuance of an approval by the veterinary authorities, officializing the compartment's compliance with European regulation (former Regulation (EC) n°616/2009<sup>1</sup>, Regulation 2016/429<sup>2</sup>) and with French regulations defining specific rules for the control of

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EC) n° 616/2009 of the Commission and of the Council laying down the rules for the implementation of Directive 2005/94/EC of the Council regarding the approval of compartments for poultry farms and of compartments for captive birds' farms against avian influenza, along with additional preventive biosecurity measures within such compartments.

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health ('Animal Health Law')



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certain zoonotic<sup>1</sup> agents and biosecurity rules in farms<sup>2</sup>. European regulation strictly complies with the requirements laid down in the Terrestrial Code of the OIE regarding the implementation of compartmentalization but provides more detailed requirements in its Annex to Regulation (EC) n o 616/2009, see Annex 1 of the Correlation Table between the two regulations.

Therefore, the main criteria that need to be met in order to obtain an approval from the French authorities are as follows:

- a) as a prerequisite, all applicable national<sup>3</sup> and international regulations must be complied with;
- b) a common biosecurity system must be in place, including good practices in the field of animal health, an exhaustive traceability system tracking all movements inside and outside the compartment, an HACCP plan which must be adapted to the farms' circumstances and biosecurity plans for each individual farm within the compartment;
- c) provision for a precise description of the compartment and its environment, a description of its possible previous contamination episodes;
- d) implementation of specific protection measures against the wild fauna;
- e) implementation of a continuous active surveillance of all poultry raised within the compartment, plus strengthening measures if the risk level should increase;
- f) a both efficient and formalized rapid alert system.

## 2. Compartments' approval procedures

### A. Request for a compartment approval

Food business operators submit a file to the national veterinary authority; this file must at least include all the information needed to meet criteria listed in point 1.

File's initial review includes a through exam of the documents completed by at least one on site official audit. According to the size of the compartment, visits will concern all holdings or a sample. This audit is performed by one or several poultry DGAL (General Directorate for Food) experts. The manager of the compartment is required to take into account all the observations made during this initial processing phase.

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<sup>1</sup> Ministerial decrees of 2008 on the control of Salmonella in the Gallus gallus species and Ministerial decree of 2009 for the control of Salmonella in turkeys.

<sup>2</sup> Ministerial decree of 8 February 2016 on biosecurity in poultry farms.

<sup>3</sup> Specific rules for the control of certain zoonotic agents and biosecurity rules in farms.



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More specifically, the French authorities check the following items:

- The perimeter of the compartment must be adapted, its size and extent must be compatible with the claimed level of control and avoid concentrating an overly large number of farms
- An active surveillance must be in place
- Biosecurity plans must be in place

Centralized processing of these requests makes it possible for the French authorities to verify that standardized biosecurity rules are implemented in all approved compartments and thus ensure that all compartments guarantees are at the same level throughout the national territory.

**B. Maintenance, suspension or withdrawal of the approvals:**

Approval maintenance is contingent to the performance of, on the one hand, regular internal audits and external audits proceeded by a certification body appointed by FBO, the findings of which are communicated to the official animal health authorities (DGAL and DDPP), and to the other hand, on the performance of official inspections by the local veterinary authorities (DDPP). Should the health or epidemiological situation require it, an official audit can be organized at any time and biosecurity plans can be modified to reflect the epidemiological context. Furthermore, active surveillance can be reinforced in the farms included in the compartment. Should a non-compliance be found, the approval is suspended or withdrawn. Approval is automatically withdrawn when an outbreak is detected in the compartment. Furthermore, the health authorities reserve the right to suspend the approval for the whole compartment or for parts of the compartment, should the health situation require such measure.

**C. Approved compartments.**

At this stage, 3 compartments have been approved, see annex 1 for details

## ANNEX 1: APPROVED COMPARTMENTS

- "ISA Bretagne" COMPARTMENT - list of holdings

Establishment	Address	EDE Code	Building unit	Production	INUAV code	Housing capacity (N O of birds)	N° of birds actually in the building
LE PARC *	22150 L'Hermitage Lorge	22080055	PARC1	Pullets (future breeders)	V022EEO	39728	25373
			PARC2		V022EEP		
			PARC3		V022EEQ		
			PARC4		V022EER		
			PARC5A		V022EJZ		
			PARC5B		V022EKA		
			PARC6 Production	Production of hatching	V022EES		
SAINT BRANDAN *	22800 St Brandan	22277180	SB1	Production of hatching	V022CKP	32760	19369
CHAMP COURT *	22150 Ploeuc sur Lie	22203429	CCA	Production of hatching	V022DQF	23592	18092
			CCB		V022DQH		
LES PORTES *	22800 Le Foeil	22059174	PO1	Production of hatching	V022EEI	36612	34109
			PO2		V022EEE		
			POM1		V022EEM		
			POM2		V022FIH		
COUVOIR PEDIGREE **	22530 St Gilles Vieux Marché	22295000		Hatchery (day-old chicks)	V022EEN	<100 000 OAC	-

\* Potential compartment-exit holding (hatching eggs)

\*\* Anticipated compartment-exit holding for day-old chicks (hatchery)

- "SASSO SABRES" COMPARTMENT - list of holdings

Nom / name	Adresse / Address	Code EDE	Appellation	Type de production	Code INUAV	Capacité / Capacity
<b>SASSO Sabres</b>	ROUTE DE SOLFERINO 40630 SABRES - France	40246082	P.0	Futurs reproducteurs	VO40FGP	7920
			P.1		VO40GDC	2360
			P.2		VO40GDD	2360
			P.3		VO40GDE	3600
			P.4		VO40GDF	3000
			P.40		VO40GDG	5460
			P.41		VO40GDH	4920
			P.42		VO40HRY	6336
			B.6		VO40GDQ	2844
			B.7	VO40CXG	3888	
			B.8	VO40GDI	2736	
			B.9	VO40GDJ	5424	
			B.10	VO40GDK	4320	
			B.11	VO40GDL	4320	
			B.12	VO40GDM	6960	
			B.50	VO40GDO	6976	
			B.51	VO40GDP	7100	
			B.52	VO40HRK	7100	
			14	Couvoir * (production de poussins)	VO40GDR	< 100 000 OAC

○ "SASSO SOULITRE" COMPARTMENT - list of holdings

Nom / name	Adresse / Address	Code EDE	Appellation	Type de production	Code INUAV	Capacité / Capacity
SASSO Soulitré	RN 23 LE DOUBLE SIX 72370 SOULITRE - France	72341105	P.721	Futurs reproducteurs	VO72BRP	6048
			P.722		VO72BRO	4400
			B723	Production d'OAC	VO72BRL	9297
			B724		VO72BRM	4608
			B725		VO72BRN	5572
			740	Couvoir * (production de poussins)	VO72DXX	< 345 600 OAC