NASC and the NASC Quality Seal

The **National Animal Supplement Council** is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit trade organization. Founded in 2001, NASC is an industry association of stakeholders concerned with the issues surrounding the supply of nutritional and health supplements for animals not intended for human consumption, namely dogs, cats and horses. **NASC members and affiliates** include manufacturers, marketers, raw materials suppliers, distributors, regulators, veterinarians, retailers, pet professionals and animal owners.

The NASC Mission is simple: To promote the health and well-being of non-human-food-chain animals that are given animal nutrition or health supplements by working transparently with state and federal regulators to establish quality standards that are **fair, reasonable, responsible and nationally consistent.**

Prior to joining NASC, prospective members that supply finished branded products must sign a written NASC Code of Conduct Agreement which pledges the company will adhere to the requirements of membership.

NASC supplier members that meet specific criteria ensuring they follow the organizations policies and standards, which are verified by conducting an on-site quality audit, can earn permission to use the **NASC Quality Seal** on their product labels, websites, product literature and advertising. A summary of the audit requirements are:

- The member company must have a written quality control manual that meets NASC cGMP requirements. These requirements are similar to those defined for Human Dietary Supplements (21CFR Part 111), slightly modified for the animal industry. They also include applicable requirements defined by the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) where gaps occur; primarily in vendor qualification and preventative controls
- The company must meet labeling claims guidance for intended use on all forms of labeling, i.e. product labels, websites, product literature, advertising, tradeshow materials and the like
- The company must enter all products and individual ingredients into the NASC Adverse Event Reporting System (NAERS™). This database tracks over 8,500 individual products and 1,400 unique ingredients. Data is made available to the FDA-CVM, Division of Surveillance

- NASC conducts random product testing for label claim four times per year. Companies cannot submit products to NASC; we purchase the products directly from the market just as consumers would
- Representatives from the company must attend mandatory NASC continuing education programs on an annual basis
- On-site audits must be completed every 2 years for continued use of the NASC Quality Seal

Following the on-site quality audit, a summary report of findings from the audit is prepared and sent to the company. These observations are communicated in writing to the NASC member company and a written response with corrective actions must be received from the member company within 90 days for the company to successfully complete its audit.

Before using the NASC Quality Seal on products, the member company must receive final authorization in writing from NASC. As it is impractical to continuously review each individual product label or extensions of labeling, the company agrees to maintain and uphold the standards defined by our organization as set forth in the NASC Code of Conduct Agreement and follow the compliance requirements as determined by the NASC Board of Directors.