



Hogan Lovells US LLP
Columbia Square
555 Thirteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004
T +1 202 637 5600
F +1 202 637 5910
www.hoganlovells.com

MEMORANDUM

From: Joseph A. Levitt
Maile Gradison Hermida
Elizabeth Barr Fawell
Leigh G. Barcham

Date: October 22, 2018

Re: **Reminder: It's Time to Renew Your FDA Food Facility Registration**

As a reminder, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requires all registered food facilities to renew their registration biennially in each even-numbered year. The current renewal period began October 1, 2018 and runs through 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 2018. Even if you have already registered or updated a facility registration in the last year, you are still required to renew the facility's registration during this renewal period. If a facility fails to renew its registration, the registration is considered expired and will be removed by FDA.

Companies should consider notifying their co-manufacturers and suppliers—both domestic and foreign—to ensure they are renewing their registrations within the renewal period. Production delays could occur if entities you work with, such as co-manufacturers, co-packers, private label distributors, or suppliers, do not renew their registration in a timely manner. In particular, imported foods will not be able to enter the U.S. without a valid facility registration number.

Take note that during the next registration renewal cycle in 2020, you will be required to submit a "unique facility identifier [(UFI)] recognized as acceptable by FDA" for each individual registered facility. ^{1/} At this time, FDA has only recognized the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number as an acceptable UFI. DUNS numbers are assigned and managed by Dun & Bradstreet and are available free of charge. You may want to start the process now to obtain DUNS for each of your facilities, so that you have them ready to submit in 2020.

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Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

^{1/} 21 CFR § 1.232(a)(2).