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From the Blog

Analysis of Food Contact Materials (FCM) at Medistri

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Medistri is proud to expand our comprehensive testing capabilities to include specialized food contact material testing - a critical requirement for manufacturers across the food and packaging industries. Drawing on our established expertise in laboratory testing and quality assurance, we've recently developed this new service to address growing market needs.

Ensuring Safety Beyond Standards

Whether it's packaging, tubing, or manufacturing equipment, these materials must undergo rigorous testing to ensure they don't transfer harmful substances to food. Our ISO 17025 accredited laboratory supports companies throughout Switzerland and across Europe by performing comprehensive migration testing under all relevant Swiss and EU regulations.

We partner closely with manufacturers and suppliers to help them meet the requirements of:

- The Swiss Ordinance on Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (RS 817.023.21)
- EU Regulation 10/2011 on plastic materials intended to come into contact with food
- ISO 1186, EN 14338, and EN 13130 testing standards

Regulatory Framework and Testing Standards

Food contact materials must comply with the applicable regulations based on their intended market, with both European and Swiss frameworks having specific requirements and limits.

Our Testing Capabilities

Overall Migration Testing

- Measures the total quantity of substances that migrate from the material into food simulants under defined time and temperature conditions
- Results are expressed in mg/dm² or mg/kg depending on the application
- Testing can identify potential compliance issues before products reach the market

Specific Migration Testing

- Targets the migration of particular substances of concern, including:
 - Primary aromatic amines (PAAs)
 - Plasticizers such as phthalates
 - Heavy metals
 - Bisphenol A and other substances of concern
 - Formaldehyde and other volatile compounds

Food Simulants and Conditions

- Testing is performed with approved simulants based on food type:
 - Ethanol solutions for alcoholic foods
 - Acetic acid for acidic foods
 - Vegetable oil for fatty foods
 - Tenax® for dry foods
- Testing conditions replicate actual use scenarios or worst-case conditions with time and temperature parameters selected based on your product's specific applications

Medistri's Commitment to Quality and Service

Our laboratory operates under ISO 17025 principles and is equipped with advanced analytical systems to perform migration testing with high sensitivity and reliability.

We believe in building partnerships rather than simply providing tests. Whether you're launching a new product, expanding into international markets, or ensuring ongoing compliance, Medistri provides the technical expertise and personalized support to move forward with confidence.



Why Food Contact Testing Matters

Chemical substances can migrate from packaging or equipment into food products during processing, storage, or transport. This migration can affect not only the taste, smell, and quality of the food, but also pose health risks to consumers. Inadequate testing can result in non-compliance, product recalls, or market restrictions—potentially costing millions in lost revenue and damaged reputation.

Comprehensive food contact testing allows manufacturers to:

- Confirm regulatory compliance before going to market
- Protect consumers from potentially harmful chemical exposure
- Preserve product integrity and safeguard brand reputation
- Gain access to international markets with confidence

European Union Requirements

- EU Regulation 10/2011 defines a positive list of authorized substances for plastic materials and sets specific and overall migration limits.
- Regulation (EC) 1935/2004 establishes general requirements for all food contact materials in the EU, requiring that they do not transfer constituents to food in quantities that could endanger human health.

Swiss Requirements

- In Switzerland, the Swiss Ordinance RS 817.023.21 defines national requirements, often aligned with EU standards but with specific lists and conditions.

Our testing is performed according to internationally recognized standards such as the EN 1186 series for plastics, EN 13130 for specific migration analysis, EN 14338 for paper and board, and other applicable ISO/TS and national annexes. Medistri ensures complete traceability, rigorous method validation, and accurate reporting for all tests.

Medistri's expertise helps clients navigate both regulatory systems to ensure their products comply with the appropriate standards based on their target markets.

Contact our dedicated team at contact@medistri.com today to discuss your testing needs. Medistri's Laboratory Experts will determine the specific tests your products require and develop a customized testing plan tailored to your regulatory requirements.

— The Medistri Team

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