

## **Overview of Labeling Requirements and Challenges**

### Zeina Attar Senior Regulatory Analyst 3E Company



### Agenda



### I. Complexity of the Regulatory Landscape

- A. Color labeling
- B. Warning statements
- C. GMO

### **II. Harmonization Challenges**



### "Labeling may not be false or misleading to consumers"

### **Regulatory Blocks**



<b>European Union</b>	Eurasian Economic Union	MERCOSUR
Andean Community of Nations	Gulf Cooperation	FDA
CODEX	JECFA	FEMA GRAS

### **Compliance Challenges**





# 3E Color Labeling

### **Color Labeling**



Country	<b>Colors Declaration Status</b>
U.S	Mandatory declaration of each artificial color
EU	Mandatory declaration (by category name (color) and E number of the specific color)
Canada	Optional declaration. The word "colour" is sufficient Exceptions: Tocino and Longaniza
Singapore	Common name or description Exception: tartrazine: (tartrazine, colur (102), colour (FD Yellow #5)

**Definition:** A color additive is any substance that imparts color to a food, drug, cosmetic, or to the human body. Color additives include both synthetic substances and substances derived from natural sources.

### **Color Labeling - U.S Framework**

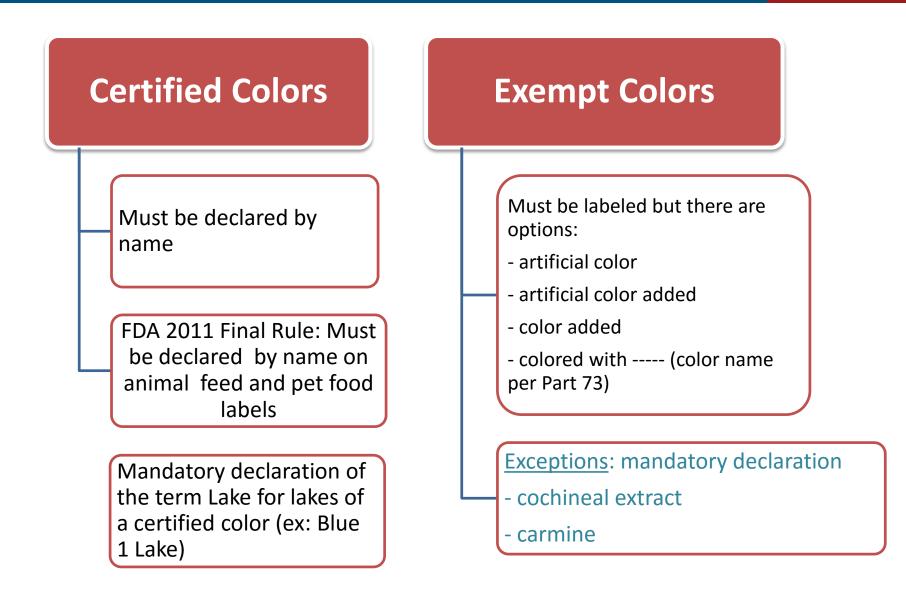


- <u>Certified Color Additives</u>: are synthetic colorings that are used widely for intense, uniform color, and because they blend easily to create a variety of hues. These additives are classified as certified because they are required to undergo certification every time a new batch is manufactured.
- <u>Exempt Colors:</u> derived from natural sources such as vegetables, minerals, or animals, or are synthetic variations of naturally occurring colors. These colors are not subject to batch certification requirements.

However! they are still color additives and FDA must approve them before they can be used in foods.

### **Color Labeling - U.S Framework**





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Make sure to determine the status of your substance: color additive, flavor, or a coloring food



Color Additives

 Category name "color" + E number

 Ex: Color (E150) Flavours with Coloring Property

 The term flavouring or specific name of the flavoring

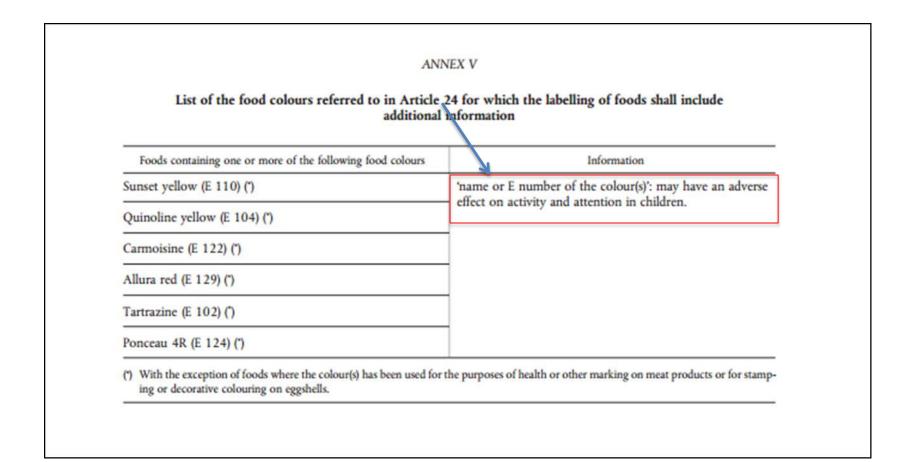
### Coloring Food

- Considered as ingredients
- Specific name on label

# 3E Warning Statement



• EU: Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008





 Russia mandates a similar statement on the label for the same coloring substances:

"Contains a colouring agent (agents) which may negatively affect children energy and concentration."

• Exceptions: alcoholic drinks and food products in which the specified coloring agents are used for labelling of slaughter products and meat products or for labelling or decorative coloring of Easter eggs.

• Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC): also mandates similar warning for the same colors:

"This material may be having a negative effect on activity and concentration in children."

- Also each of these colors must be accompanied with an (\*).



### Alcoholic Strength Declaration:

Country	Status	Cut Off Limit For Alcoholic Beverages	Statement
U.S	Optional on federal level but mandatory on some states level	0.5%	
EU	Mandatory	1.2%	

C	<ul> <li>GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1)</li> <li>According to the Surgeon General, women should not drink alcoholic beverages during pregnancy because of the risk of birth defects. (2) Consumption of alcoholic beverages impairs your ability to drive a car or operate machinery, and may cause health problems.</li> </ul>			it For	Statement
ť	J.S	Optional on federal level but mandatory on some states level	0.5%		
E	U	Mandatory	1.2%		



### **GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1)**

According to the Surgeon General, women should not drink alcoholic beverages during pregnancy because of the risk of birth defects. (2) Consumption of alcoholic beverages impairs your ability to drive a car or operate machinery, and may cause health problems.

### U.S

E

**Optional on** federal level but mandatory on

0.5%

Must appear in the same field of vision as the name of the food and the net contents declaration. Unit and health information, including advice on drinking and pregnancy, may be included on a voluntary basis

#### **Statement** it For



### **Sugar Alcohol**

U.S	Russia	GCC
Mannitol, sorbitol and polydextrose require the following statement (when certain thresholds are achieved: <i>"Excess of consumption may have a laxative effect"</i>	Food products containing sugar alcohols must contain the following directly after the food product content: "Contains a sweetener (sweeteners). If overused may provoke laxative action."	Food products containing sugar alcohols must contain the following statement: <i>"Excess of consumed</i> <i>quantity X per day could</i> <i>cause laxative effects"</i>



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		Mannitol: 20 g Sorbitol or Xylitol: 40 g Lactitol or Erythritol: not

specified



### **Aspartame**

EU	U.S	Russia	GCC
must disclose the presence of aspartame on the label indicating either its name of E number (E 951)	products containing aspartame must include a statement that the product contains phenylalanine	same as the U.S	use either of the following statements: 1. "لايستخدم من قبل " 1. الأشخاص المصابين بمرض "Not to be used by persons who have Phenyl Ketonuria."

### Allergens:



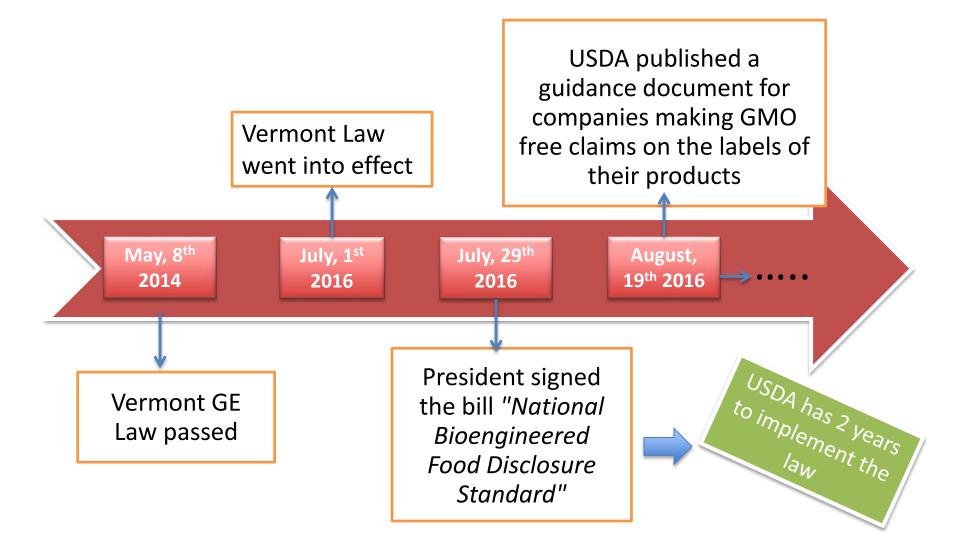
- **U.S:** The allergen may be named either in the ingredient list, in brackets following the allergen containing ingredient, or in a statement starting "contains" and naming the allergens immediately below the ingredient declaration
- **EU:** must be indicated in the list of ingredients, with the allergen named and clearly distinguished from the rest of the ingredients in the list.
  - -The name of the allergenic substance must be emphasized by using the font, style or background color. Ex: tofu as "tofu (**soya**)"

EU list of allergens that require disclosure on the label when used as ingredients:





### GMO – U.S





### **Options for disclosure on the label:**

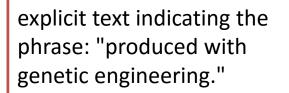
- 1. Written statement
- 2. Symbol
- 3. Electronic code readable by smartphone



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### • The industry is pushed to self regulate!







### GMO





✓ NON GMO INGREDIENTS\*✓ MADE WITH WHOLE MILK





"We believe the currently approved GMOs are safe. Furthermore, we believe that sustainable agricultural practices can be achieved with or without the use of GMOs. However, we believe there is growing consumer preference for non-GMO ingredients and food in the U.S. and we want to use the strong relationships we have with our farmer partners to provide products that address this consumer demand."



### **GMO Around the World**



Country	Labeling Required?	Trigger Threshold	Comments
Canada	No		Bill was proposed in June
EU	Yes	0.9%	43 GMOs authorized (EU register for GM food and feed)
Brazil	Yes	1%	New label requirements proposed this year
Bolivia	Yes	>1% or undefined	Effective June 1 <sup>st</sup> of 2016
Argentina	No		
Russia	Yes	0.9%	Registration requirements
China	Yes	1%	Some provinces issue bans on GMO products
Japan	Yes	5%	Of product total weight & top 3 ingredients
Vietnam	Yes	5%	New draft labeling reg (to be in effect 2017)
South Africa	Yes	>1% or undefined	

### **Compliance Challenges**

### So why not harmonize?

- 1. Harmonization is costly!
  - Learning cost
  - Implementation cost
  - Monitoring and enforcement cost
- 2. Varied legislative processes
- 3. Enforcement issues









## **Thank You!**

### zattar@3ecompany.com