



Statement regarding quality of meat used for school catering

We have asked our catering provider, Devon Norse, to provide us with a statement regarding the integrity of the meat used within the canteen.

We have been assured that all meat used is sourced locally and has full traceability. The statement from Devon Norse is included below along with statements from their two meat suppliers.

February 15th 2013



Meat Quality

Devon Norse would like to reassure all our customers that the meat products we use have full traceability and are sourced locally. The Beef burgers are either home made using locally sourced West Country beef or made especially for us using the same high quality ingredients.

We are satisfied that our quality control process together with the vigorous systems operated by our supplier can give the necessary assurance.

Ray Beale

Meat Contamination

10 February 2013

Brakes is aware of the FSAI (Food Safety Authority of Ireland) investigations and subsequent press reports in January 2013 relating to the finding of horse and pig meat in retail beef burgers.

Brakes is also aware of the recent press releases and communications from FSA relating to the finding of horse meat in Findus Beef Lasagne.

In addition, Brakes has been aware of recent press reports that traces of porcine protein have been found in Halal products supplied to the Ministry of Justice.

We would like to reassure customers that no Brakes brand products are sourced from the suppliers named and none of our own brand products have been implicated in any of these findings.

Our Technical and Purchasing teams are monitoring the evolving situation very seriously.

Although none of our products are affected by these findings, as a further precaution Brakes is currently undertaking appropriate testing of specific products.

For all Brake branded beef product suppliers we have had positive reconfirmation on the source, traceability and processing of the meat.

We do not supply any Brakes brand Halal products, but do take stock of a number of supplier branded Halal certified products. Despite holding the necessary Halal certificates for all products from various Halal certifying bodies, as a further precaution, we are undertaking speciation testing.

Brakes branded suppliers follow rigorous manufacturing standards and specifications to ensure they meet agreed product specifications and prevent any cross-contamination.

Brakes terms and conditions require that all our suppliers comply with all relevant UK and EU legislation.

Along with the wider industry, we are considering any requirements on sampling and testing of our products in line with the protocols recently announced by the Food Standards Agency.

SCORSE FOODS LTD



Quality Catering Butchers

8th February 2013

Dear Customer

Further to the current issue of beef products containing or being contaminated by meat or DNA from other species Scorse Foods would like to confirm to our clients:

- We pride ourselves on supplying quality products sourced from reputable suppliers and abide by the highest standards of food safety, legality and quality at all times.
- In light of the current issues surrounding meat, our current suppliers have provided us with written assurances regarding their own supply chain and the procedures involved in us receiving our products.
- Any beef that is contained within our manufactured products eg Minced Steak and Beef Burgers is sourced from two companies within the South West who both solely slaughter bovine animals on site.
- We do not or have not sourced any product from the companies named within the original press releases.
- Our own manufactured products are processed on site to strict operating procedures which are independently audited and verified by the Food Standards Agency and other third party accreditation bodies.
- This is the case for all species that we process.
- All our products are labelled accurately and in accordance with current labelling regulations.