

Regulation (EU) 1274/2013 and impact on manufacturers and users of Microcrystalline Cellulose (E460i) and Sodium Carboxymethyl Cellulose (E466)

On 6 December 2013, Commission Regulation 1274/2013 amending Annexes II and III to Regulation 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council and the Annex to Commission Regulation 231/2012 regarding specifications of certain food additives was published in the Official Journal of the European Union. The Regulation enters into force on 26 December 2014.

What has changed?

Regulation 1274/2013 changes the designated names for Microcrystalline cellulose (E460) and for Cellulose Gum (E466). Microcrystalline Cellulose receives the dual name Cellulose Gel while for Cellulose Gum the synonym Carboxymethyl Cellulose is deleted. Both changes mean that the nomenclature in the European Union is now aligned with the International Numbering System (INS) of the Codex Alimentarius.

Impact on manufacturers and users of E460i and E466

Designated names are to be used in B2B labelling, while for consumer labelling a choice can be made out of the E-number and of the designated name. Manufacturers and users of Microcrystalline Cellulose and of Cellulose Gum are advised to take the changes of the above into account.