

BTSF

Introduction to the training — Phil OWEN

Contract number 2017 96 05 – New Food Investigation Techniques –
Phase II - *Course 2b: E-Commerce of food advanced*

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BTSF Introduction



➤ Objectives

➤ Overview of the course

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BTSF Advanced Course

- In-depth training, building on the previous Course B course: Training for control staff on e-commerce of Agri-Food;
- Focusing on the practical implementation of official control of food offered online.



BTSF Growth of E-Commerce

- EU wide transactions €45bn in 2015
- €636bn in 2019
- Online sales up 14.2% year-on-year
- Mobile sales record 42% year-on-year growth
- What is this continuing to mean for AGRI-FOOD safety/fraud?



BTSF COM e-commerce working group

“Working Group on the Strengthening of the Enforcement of EU Agri-Food Legislation on Internet Sales of Food” Set up in 2016

The aim of the working group was to identify the best approaches and tools to check e-commerce and formulate recommendations to the European Commission and the Member States

Since 2019 replaced with a new COM E-com Working Group

Part of the Administrative Assistance and Cooperation – crucial for effective official controls of distance selling

BTSF Coordinated control programmes

Coordinated Control Programmes

- Article 112 of the Regulation on official controls empowers the Commission to adopt **coordinated plans** organised on an **ad hoc basis**.
- The Commission launched coordinated control plans to assess the prevalence of illegal activities at EU level and to follow up appropriately suspicions of fraudulent practices.



BTSF Coordinated control programmes

- In the period between 2013 and 2019 the Commission launched five control plans dedicated to horse meat, honey, online offered food products, herbs and spices.
- [Online offered food \(2017\)](#)
- [Honey \(2015-17\)](#)
- [Fish substitution \(2015\)](#)
- [Horse meat \(2013-14\)](#)
- In 2020, the Commission is coordinating an [action plan](#) with Member States on illegal offers and advertising of foods related to COVID-19

BTSF Cooperation activities

- The Commission also engages in joint initiatives and cooperation with Europol/Interpol.
- Operation OPSON: targets the trafficking of fake and substandard food and beverages.
- OPSON VII: EU coordinated action with the support of the EU Food Fraud Network;
 - 11 European countries
 - To detect fraudulent practices pertaining to tuna.

https://ec.europa.eu/food/food/safety/food-fraud/coord-act_en

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Thank you

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