

Save gas for a safe winter Specialty food ingredients are “societally-critical”

EU Specialty Food Ingredients welcomes that food is identified by the European Commission as a societally-critical sector, for which a disruption of gas supply would have negative effects on supply chains¹.

EU Specialty Food Ingredients would like to stress that **the production of foods and beverages requires specialty food ingredients² for their processing and formulation, and that food ingredients are defined as food in the General Food Law³.**

Members of EU Specialty Food Ingredients encourage Member States, when considering measures⁴ to reach a 15 % demand reduction target between August 1, 2022 to March 31,2023, **to prioritise the production of specialty food ingredients as an activity critical for society given their vital role in the food supply chain.**

The European specialty food ingredients industries acknowledge their responsibility of being themselves as resource-efficient as possible in the production of specialty food ingredients.

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EU Specialty Food Ingredients represents a united voice for the specialty food ingredients industry on scientific, technical and regulatory issues relating to food products in Europe. It is our aim to ensure that all stakeholders - from manufacturers and retailers to regulatory authorities and consumers - are correctly informed of the use, safety and benefits of specialty food ingredients. In total, more than 200 international and national food ingredients companies are currently involved in the Federation's activities through direct membership or an association. 3-8% of EU specialty food ingredients manufacturers' turnover is dedicated to research and development.

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¹ [Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions "Save gas for a safe winter" COM\(2022\) 360 final](#)

² vitamins, additives, enzymes, minerals, cultures, specific fats and proteins, functional carbohydrates etc.

³ [Article 2 of Regulation \(EC\) 178/2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety](#)

⁴ Article 6 of COUNCIL REGULATION on coordinated demand reduction measures for gas: <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-11625-2022-INIT/en/pdf>