

FOOD TECHNICAL SERVICES

TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND TRAINING FOR THE FOOD INDUSTRY

Basics and statutory requirements for start-up food businesses

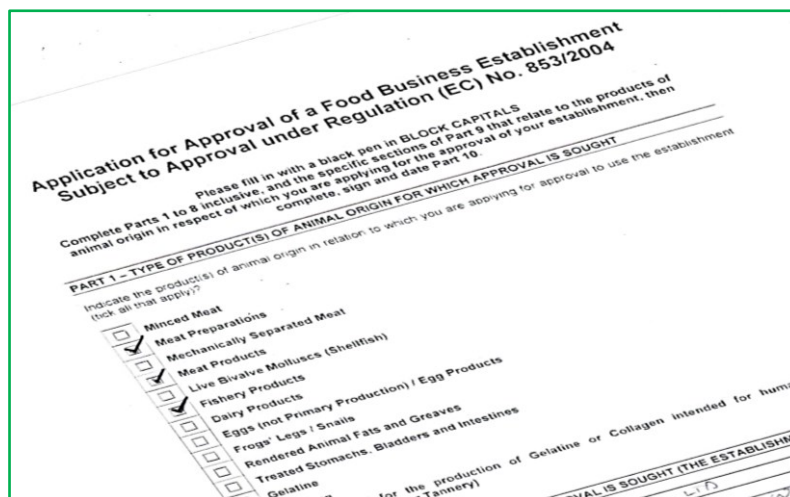
Changes in economic circumstances tend to make us think of new approaches, new opportunities, new markets, new products and for some – a new business. Over the years we've seen many ideas coming forward and have assisted several businesses from their early stages of development.

As Food Industry Technical Specialists (Food Technologists) we recognise the complexities of setting up a new business. We don't get into areas out with our own skills base – recommend that clients seek out specialists in those areas -eg: finance, accountancy, company law, insurance, marketing, branding, website design, advertising, recruitment.

We do have a broad skill set and always adapt our approach to the needs/skills of the new business and its personnel. Some typical areas we have provided assistance with (as advice or assistance or actually taking on some of the work):

- Finding suitable premises and equipment.
- Factory standards (layouts/space requirements/fabric standards /service requirements etc).
- Technical advice on eg environmental controls (temperature/humidity etc) product preservation and safety.
- Product and process development.
- Packaging development.
- Shelf life trials.
- Food safety management system development.
- Registration and applications to Local Government Environmental Health.
- Pack/Label text legality.
- Weight control legality.
- Compliance with Allergen regulations.
- What claims can and cannot be made on packaging.
- Advice and support if food certification is required.
- Retailer requirements.

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The image shows a form titled "Application for Approval of a Food Business Establishment Subject to Approval under Regulation (EC) No. 853/2004". The form includes instructions to fill in with a black pen and to complete Parts 1 to 8. It also contains a section for "PART 1 - TYPE OF PRODUCT(S) OF ANIMAL ORIGIN FOR WHICH APPROVAL IS SOUGHT" with a list of product categories and checkboxes. The categories listed are: Minced Meat, Meat Preparations, Mechanically Separated Meat, Meat Products, Live Bivalve Molluscs (Shellfish), Fishery Products, Dairy Products, Eggs (not Primary Production) / Egg Products, Frogs' Legs / Snails, Rendered Animal Fats and Greaves, Treated Stomachs, Bladders and Intestines, and Gelatine. The checkboxes for "Meat Preparations", "Mechanically Separated Meat", "Live Bivalve Molluscs (Shellfish)", and "Dairy Products" are marked with a checkmark. The form also includes a section for "APPROVAL IS SOUGHT (THE ESTABLISHMENT)" with a date field.

