

Nutrient database can assist health claims

By Shane Starling, 27-Oct-2009

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Pooling nutrient information is becoming an important and time efficient way for companies scientific data about nutrients – especially those seeking to back health claims under the European Union's tough claims system.

Typically, ingredients are grouped by nutrient form or health condition, and information collated about relevant scientific data and the regulatory status quo in different parts of the world.

French consultancy, NutraVeris, is one such firm that has about 2100 nutrients in a paid-for database containing scientific and regulatory information.

General manager, Cedric Bourges-Sevenier, said the development of the EU [health claims](#) process had seen greater demands placed on the database than ever before.

"There is so much uncertainty at the moment with the situation in Europe that we are fielding a lot of queries and much data drilling is going on," he said. "We can save companies time and help them with their submissions because of the many ways the data we have compiled can be chopped up and accessed."

NutraVeris has worked with many companies in compiling their health claim dossiers, and like the rest of industry, has been learning as the process has gone along and it has become apparent just what is required to win a health claim positive opinion from the European Food safety Authority (EFSA).