

BFDI Anti-Corruption Policy

Introduction

Corruption is a threat for the credibility and integrity of our trademark. BFDI does not accept corruption at any level. The main corruption risks in our organisation are related to inspection and certification, but it can also happen at other levels.

Corruption can be expressed, e.g., in money, loans, discounts, high value gifts*, providing services for free, invitations to luxury hotels or restaurants, job offers, spending weekends or holidays at the expense of the inviting, etc.

In the context of certification, corruption can have, e.g., the intention of removing certain non-conformities from an inspection report, convincing the inspector to write a report without even visiting the operation, preventing access to compromising places or documents, etc.

** We define "high value" as anything above 20 €.*

Policy

1. Staff accepting bribes (in the different forms described above) for granting certain benefits to licensees or others, will be laid off.
2. Inspectors (including those working for organic certification bodies) accepting bribes in the different forms, for obtaining a positive certification result or avoiding a sanction, will lose their Demeter approval.
3. BFDI will stop co-operation with organic certification bodies that tolerate corruption among their inspectors or certification staff.
4. BFDI will not offer bribes to government institutions for obtaining services or favourable conditions.
5. BFDI encourages whistleblowers to inform us of any evidence or suspicion of corruption in any of the above-mentioned ways. Whistleblowers will be protected.