

Press release

Organic Standard (OS) gladly announces that **since October 26, 2009,** it has been recognized by the International Organic Accreditation Service IOAS as the first Ukrainian certification body conforming to ISO 65 (the international standard for certification). Through this accreditation, Organic Standard now offers complete organic certification services for both international (European Union) and local (Ukrainian) organic markets to guarantee that certified organic products have been produced within a system that conforms to accepted international standards.

Organic Standard works in close collaboration with other internationally recognized certification bodies and can offer certification according to the US National Organic Program NOP, the Japanese Agricultural Standards JAS and the Bio Suisse Standards (the latter in collaboration with IMO, Switzerland).

Organic Standard OS was registered in 2007 as a Limited Liability Company (Ltd.) within the context of the Swiss-Ukrainian Project "Organic certification and market development in Ukraine", which has been financed by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO and implemented by the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL.

Organic Standard employs staff with who hold higher university degrees in agricultural and food quality and having many years of practical experience in organic farming. Through theoretical and practical know-how, this young and motivated team ensures high quality services, and credible and reliable certification. This is crucial for the sustainable development of the organic sector and food industry, not only in Ukraine but also worldwide.

Organic Standard **General Manager**, **Sergiy Galashevskyy**, said: "It is a pleasure to have brought our company to an internationally recognized level and to continue to contribute to consumers' trust in organic foods. Our mission is to contribute a future-oriented, credible, client-oriented and committed service that assures transparency among trade partners and facilitates direct contact between market players. Our company aims to enhance the visibility of the growing Ukrainian organic sector and its enormous export potential."

Organic Standard is based in Kiev and has a local representative in Odessa.

Contact:

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