



Food Manufacture

Purchasing Department

Lesson 3

Improve your knowledge of the purchasing department and the various purchasing processes completed in food manufacture.





The purchasing department can arrange with suppliers for samples of products to be supplied so they can be tested for their suitability.





The NPD department may request a specific sample to be obtained from several suppliers to determine which work best in a new product.

Or they may request several types of samples e.g. different size chopped onion to determine which improves product quality.





The technical department may request samples to run tests on to determine the product suitability.



Microbiological checks are performed on ingredients and finished products to check quality and safety.





Shelf life tests are performed on samples to check the life of ingredient and finished products.





Samples will be
measured against
ingredient and product
specifications





Organoleptic/sensory tests will be performed on products to determine the samples suitability.





Samples will be used in normal manufacturing conditions to make sure they are of the correct standard when being processed.





The purchasing department can organise for any potential new equipment or machinery to be placed on trial in the factory.



Equipment or machinery trials can help to decide if it is suitable to perform the required function in the processing environment.





The length of trial time of equipment or machinery is determined by negotiation between the purchasing department and the company selling the equipment or machinery.





The company enabling the trial of equipment or machinery will normally set up the equipment or machinery and ensure it is running in the correct way using appropriate settings.





The purchasing department can liaise with the supplier company to organise training to key staff on the use of the new trial equipment or machinery.





Revision Activity 3

Name a type of test which may be performed on a sample product issued from a supplier?