

DQS ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION REGULATIONS

- ANNEX FOOD SAFETY -

1. Scope and Applicability

This "Food Safety Annex to DQS Assessment and Certification Regulations" apply to all assessment and certification services offered and rendered to clients of DQS Inc. according to the food safety standards listed within these regulations are only valid in combination with the general DQS Assessment and Certification Regulation available in English language at <http://www.dqs-holding.com/en/pages/about-dqs-group/certification-rules.html> or upon request from every DQS office.

2. SQF Program Requirements

For Clients applying for the Safe Quality Food (SQF) certification, the following terms and conditions apply:

1. The Client shall comply with the duties, responsibilities, and requirements of the current SQF Code to which they are certified/ certifying and the ISO 17065 Protocol pertaining to SQF requirements, SQF Reposittrak system, use of SQF Logo and Quality Shield, and Certificate Suspension rules:

2. DQS shall suspend the SQF certificate if the supplier

- i. Fails to permit the recertification or surveillance audit
- ii. Receives an "F- fails to comply" rating
- iii. Fails to take corrective action
- iv. Fails to permit an unannounced audit
- v. Fails to take correction action within the timeframe specified or
- vi. Where in the opinion of DQS fails to maintain the requirements of the SQF code

3. Where the supplier's certificate is suspended, DQS shall immediately amend supplier details in the SQFI database to a suspended status indicating the reason for suspension and effective date, and in writing:

- i. Inform the supplier of the reasons for the action taken and the date of effect
- ii. Copy the Senior Technical Director of SQFI on the notice of suspension sent to the supplier
- iii. Request that the supplier provides DQS within 48 hours of receiving notice a detailed corrective action plan outlining the corrective action to be taken.

4. When the site's certificate is suspended, DQS shall upon receipt of the detailed correction action plan:

- i. Verify that the immediate correction has been taken by the means of an on-site visit within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving the corrective action plan.
- ii. When corrective action has been successfully implemented, reinstate the site status on the SQFI assessment database and give written notice to the site that their certificate is no longer suspended.
- iii. Not more than six (6) months after suspension, DQS shall conduct a further unannounced site visit to verify the effective implementation of the corrective action plan and the site's SQF system is achieving stated objectives and
- iv. Copy SQFI on the notice indicating lifting of the suspension sent to the site.

5. Any SQF certificate decisions or information shall be forwarded to the Program Manager. The Program Manager and SQF Administrator shall work together in the pending suspension process. The SQF Administrator will be included in the decision making process at the latest, before the final verdict is made.

6. SQF Food Safety Code and Food Quality Code (Edition 8) certified suppliers are granted authorization to use of the SQFI logo on any internal materials. The SQF logo can be obtained directly from SQFI. Food Quality Code certified suppliers are additionally granted permission to use of the SQF Quality Shield on any products and marketing materials. The SQF Quality Shield can only be obtained from DQS as your Certification Body.

3. British Retail Consortium Program Requirements

For clients applying to British Retail Consortium (BRC), the Client shall comply with the duties, responsibilities, and requirements of the current applicable version of the BRC Global Food Safety Standard, BRC Global Packaging and Packaging Materials, or the BRC Global Standard for Storage and Distribution in accordance to ISO 17065:

1. The organization agrees to meet the reporting requirements detailed in the BRC Global Standard and clearly identify the scope of the audit on the appropriate forms provided by DQS Inc. during the service request initiation.
2. The organization acknowledges that a copy of the audit report and any subsequent certificate/results shall be supplied to the BRC and the Accredited Certification Body Office in the agreed format for the BRC standard used. All related documentation, reviewed by the auditor/CB shall be made available to the BRC upon request. Any forms sent to BRC will be copies of the originals and will be treated as confidential.
3. As a condition of undertaking an audit via the BRC scheme, the organization agrees to the possibility of the auditor being accompanied by other personnel (CB, Accreditation Bodies, BRC, etc.) for training, assessment or calibration purposes.
4. BRC reserves the right to conduct their own audit or visit to a site once certified in response to complaints, or as routine compliance should be enforced. These visits may be announced or unannounced. BRC may also contact the site directly in relation to their Certification status or for feedback on Certification Body performance, or investigation into reported issues.
5. For all services offered under the accreditation of DQS CFS GmbH, the Specific Conditions for the Assessment of Management Systems and Product Certification apply.

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