

Food Safety System Certification

FSSC 22000

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Change history

Version	Author	Description
Issue -1 dated 1 st AUG 2018	Sumit Dey	Initial Issue
Issue -2 dated 3 rd March 2021	Sumit Dey	Change in Minor NC requirement as per FSSC V5.1 Requirement
Issue -3 dated 1st April 2024	Sumit Dey	Applicability of FSSC V6, Weblink is modified

1 FSSC 22000

1.1 Introduction

Food-borne illnesses pose a huge public safety hazard, and can damage your company's reputation and bottom line. Increased demand for safe food, as a result of globalisation and international trade, has made food safety management extremely important.

Food Safety System Certification 22000 (FSSC 22000) is a robust, ISO-based, internationally accepted certification scheme. entire supply chain is included in a single certification, making FSSC 22000 the most comprehensive and accessible food safety management system available. The scheme incorporates existing standards including ISO 22000, sector specific PRPs and HACCP, it offers a complete certification programmer in a single package, making it accessible for organizations of all sizes. FSSC 22000 is owned by an independent non-profit organization and is fully approved by the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI).

1.2 Benefits

1. Promote Food Safety and Quality
2. By gaining certification, you will gain recognition for your ongoing commitment to food safety, prove your integrity to the market, and enhance consumer confidence in your brand.
3. FSSC22000 is a globally recognized standard, including acceptance with the GFSI (Global Food Standard Initiative).
4. Pro-Actively improves processes saving you valuable time and resources.
5. Demonstration of your diligence in food safety

1.3 Why Cotecna

Swiss group founded in 1974. Extended network of over 100 offices & laboratories in 50 countries. The Group offers the same exacting standards in executing services to both governmental and commercial organizations. Cotecna is one of the world's leading testing, inspection and certification companies. Cotecna Inspection India Pvt Ltd has experienced experts on food safety aspects and expereince auditor with multiple competency to provide you oneumbrella solution. COTECNA India can help you as below

- Provide comprehensive training on all aspects of FSSC22000
- Perform gap-analysis, to help you understand your best route to certification
- Conduct the entire certification process to ensure compliance with food safety standards

1.4 Important Links

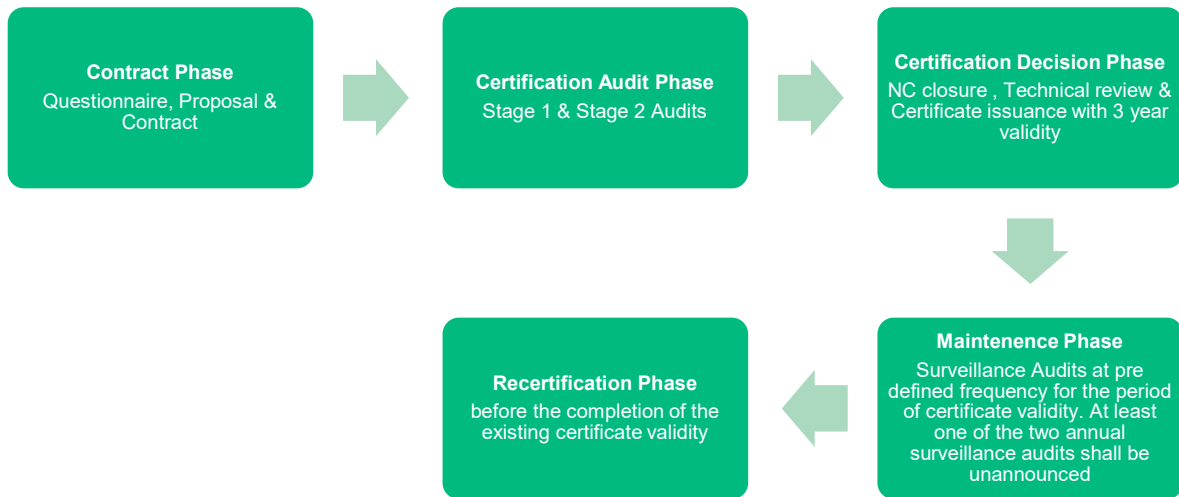
<https://www.fssc.com/schemes/fssc-22000/>

<https://www.fssc.com/schemes/fssc-22000/become-fssc-22000-certified/>

<https://www.fssc.com/schemes/fssc-22000/documents/fssc-22000-version-6/>

<https://www.fssc.com/schemes/fssc-22000/documents/fssc-22000-version-6/#additional-documents>

1.5 Certification Process- FSSC 22000



1.6 Application Process

To get Application / Questionnaire please contact indiacertification@cotecna.co.in

1.7 Audit

Opening meeting – Evaluation of the documentation – Site assessment and interviews of employees – Creation of the audit conclusions, Closing meeting

Initial Certification Audit is two stages of audit both Onsite, - Stage-1 & Stage -2.

The Stage 1 audit, verifies that the system has been designed and developed in accordance with the organization’s top management commitment to conform with Scheme requirements. The objective of this audit is to assess the preparedness of the applicant organization to proceed to the stage 2 audit.

The Stage 2 audit substantiates top management's claim by auditing implementation of the food safety management system. The activities subject to the proposed certification scopes shall be assessed during the initial certification audit. Once the gaps / deviation, identified during Stage-1 audit is satisfactory addressed by Audit site management - Stage -2 audit can be processed

Follow-up Audits (minimum annual surveillance) during the certification period to verify maintenance and continuous improvement will be conducted. At least one of the two annual surveillance audits shall be unannounced.

1.8 Non-Conformity

Minor nonconformity - A minor nonconformity shall be issued when the finding does not affect the capability of the management system to achieve the intended results

- 1) When a minor nonconformity is issued during an audit, the organization shall provide the CB with objective evidence of Correction, evidence of an investigation into causative factors, exposed risks & the proposed corrective action plan (CAP).
- 2) CB shall review the corrective action plan & the evidence of correction & approve it when acceptable. The CB approval shall be completed within 28 days after the last day of audit. Exceeding this time frame shall result in a suspension of the certificate.
- 3) Corrective actions shall be implemented by the organisation within the time frame agreed with the CB.
- 4) Effectiveness of implementation of the corrective action plan shall be reviewed, at the latest, at the next scheduled audit. Failure to address a minor nonconformity from the previous audit could lead to a major nonconformity being raised at the next scheduled audit.

Major nonconformity - A major nonconformity shall be issued when the finding affects the capability of the management system to achieve the intended results:

- 1) When a major nonconformity is issued during an audit, the organization must provide the CB with objective evidence of an investigation into causative factors, exposed risks and the proposed CAP. This shall be provided to the CB within 14 days after the audit.
- 2) Corrective action shall be implemented by the organization within 14 days after the audit.
- 3) The major nonconformity shall be closed by the CB within a further 14 days after implementation of the corrective action by the organization. The organization shall submit objective evidence of implementation to the CB.
- 4) The CB shall review the corrective action plan and related objective evidence of implementation, challenge it if necessary and determine its effectiveness and approve the CAP and CA
- 5) The CB shall conduct a follow-up audit to verify the implementation of the CA to close the major nonconformity. In cases where documentary evidence is sufficient to close out the major nonconformity, the CB may decide to perform a desk review.
- 6) The completion of corrective actions might take more time depending on the potential severity of the major nonconformity and the amount of work necessary to eliminate the causative factors. In such cases the CAP shall include any temporary measures or controls necessary to mitigate the risk until the permanent corrective action is implemented. A follow-up audit shall be conducted to verify the permanent corrective action and to close the major nonconformity.
- 7) A critical nonconformity is raised in the event of non-completion of the approved corrective action.

Critical nonconformity - A critical nonconformity is issued when a direct food safety impact without appropriate action by the organization is observed during the audit or when legality and/or certification integrity are at stake:

- 1) When a critical nonconformity is issued at a certified site the certificate shall be immediately suspended for a maximum period of six (6) months.
- 2) When a critical nonconformity is issued during an audit, the organization must provide the CB with objective evidence of an investigation into causative factors, exposed risks and the proposed CAP. This shall be provided to the CB within 14 days after the audit.
- 3) A follow-up audit shall be conducted by the CB within the six (6) month timeframe to verify the closure of the critical nonconformity.
- 4) The certificate shall be withdrawn when the critical nonconformity is not effectively solved within the six (6) month timeframe.
- 5) In case of a certification audit, the full certification audit shall be repeated.

1.9 Transition to FSSC 22000

When transitioning from Dutch HACCP, ISO 22000 or a GFSI recognized certification scheme to FSSC 22000 certification, a full stage 1 and 2 audit is not required to confirm compliance of the food safety management system with all Scheme requirements. The transition audit is based on the recertification Scheme requirements. The transition audit shall result in a new FSSC 22000 certificate with a regular validity of three (3) years.

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1.10 Transfer of Certification

Transfer of certification is done when the certification being transferred is in good standing, the certificate is valid and will be valid at the time of audit, all previous audits have been conducted at the appropriate intervals, there are no outstanding Major CARs and the scope remains the same. Copies of these documents shall be submitted with the proposal acceptance for further review and process