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CERTIND POLICY ON CERTIFICATION TRANSITION from FSSC 22000 version 5.1 to FSSC 22000 version 6

The FSSC Foundation published in April 2023 the FSSC 22000 Certification Scheme version 6 and the technical document REQUIREMENTS V6 UPGRADE PROCESS, communicating the update of the FSSC 22000 Certification Scheme.

The main factors that initiated the development of the FSSC 22000 V6 certification scheme were:

- Incorporation of ISO 22003-1:2022 requirements;
- Strengthening requirements to support organisations in their contributions to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- Editorial changes and amendments as part of continuous improvement

The transition process includes the following requirements:

- 1) Audits according to FSSC 22000 V5.1 can only be carried out until 31 March 2024.
- 2) Transition audits against FSSC 22000 Scheme V6 shall be carried out from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

A transition period of 12 months is provided to allow organisations to prepare for the new version

Transition to FSSC 22000 V6

1. Audits and certificates

1.1 Audits

- The first audits on version 6 will start from 01 April 2024.
- All organisations will be required to complete the V6 upgrade audit before 31 March 2025.
- Performing V6 audits will not be possible before 1 April 2024

Initial certification audits (Stage 1 + Stage 2):

- both stage 1 and stage 2 audits are carried out on version 6 when the audit takes place on the 1st of April 2024 OR
- Stage 1 to version 5.1 shall be carried out (when carried out before 1 April 2024) and Stage 2 to version 6 when carried out on or after 1 April 2024.

Upgrade audit (transition) to FSSC 22000 V6 (surveillance or recertification)

- An upgraded (transition) audit is a full audit in accordance with the new FSSC 22000 V6 requirements and can be performed announced or unannounced if necessary to meet the 3-year unannounced audit requirements.
- For upgraded audits using the remote audit approach method, both the remote and on-site components shall be completed against V6 starting with 1 April 2024. It is not possible to perform part of the audit on another version of the scheme.

CERTIND S.A.

UGIR 1903 Pallace, 27-29 George Enescu Street, 1st District, Bucharest, Romania

Tel/Fax: 0040 021 313 36 51

Registration No: J40/7870/2003 V.A.T. No: RO15502676

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1.2 Certificates

- The FSSC 22000 certificate of the certified organisation will be updated after successful completion of the transition audit process to version 6.
- Version 6 of the scheme will be referenced on the certificate, audit report, audit plan, audit programme and the FSSC Platform (Assurance Platform).
- In case of transition during a surveillance audit, the expiry date of the V5.1 certificate will be maintained.
- All transition audit documents and V6 certificates will be uploaded to the FSSC Platform within 2 months of the last day of the FSSC V6 transition audit.
- CERTIND will complete the transition of certificates to FSSC V6 within the FSSC platform no later than 31 May 2025.
- All remaining V5.1 certificates without transition will be automatically removed from the FSSC Platform after 31 May 2025 and will no longer be visible in the FSSC 22000 public register of certified organisations.

In order to ensure the transition to FSSC 22000 V6, CERTIND will perform the transition in accordance with the requirements of the accreditation body and the FSSC 22000 Foundation.

Thus,

CERTIND will include the requirements of FSSC 22000 V6 into its management system, including these transition process requirements.

CERTIND will inform certified organisations within 3 months from the date of publication of the new Scheme documents and updated requirements for V6.

CERTIND will train its personnel involved in the certification process with the new requirements of the FSSC 22000 V6 scheme.

All existing FSSC 22000 V5.1 qualified auditors will be trained, tested and re-qualified for FSSC 22000 V6 - Training and Examination for all requirements of FSSC V6, including the relevant parts of ISO 22003-1:2022.

Evidence of auditor training will be uploaded to the FSSC Platform as part of the annual maintenance of competence.

For changes introduced by ISO 22003-1:2022 which are involving new categories in the scope of competence of personnel, re-qualification of auditors in accordance with these changes will be carried out until 1 April 2024.

We are at your disposal for any information regarding the transition evaluation process presented in this policy.

General Manager
Violeta Sergentu



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