



Update Bucharest, February 26th, 2021

CERTIND POLICY ON TRANSITION FROM FSSC 22000 vs 5 TO FSSC 22000 vs 5.1

FSSC 22000 Foundation has published in December 2020 the technical document *Requirements for the FSSC 22000 V5 upgrade process*, through which it is announced the upgrade to FSSC 22000 V5.1, published in November 2020.

The main factors that initiated the development of this subversion have been:

- Incorporating the GFSI benchmarking requirements version 2020.1
- Strengthening the licensing process and the Integrity Program
- Minor editorial changes or amendments to the V5 Scheme requirements

The technical document states that audits against the FSSC 22000 Scheme requirements V5 are only allowed latest March 31st of 2021, following that all audits for initial certification, surveillance or recertification to be conducted against the FSSC 22000 V5.1 requirements.

Requirements for upgrade process of FSSC V5 certified organization to FSSC 22000 V5.1

Audits and certificates

- It is not possible to conduct **upgrade surveillance audits** directly from V4.1 to V5.1.
- Upgrade to FSSC 22000 V5.1 is possible during the unannounced audit and will not affect the audit program.
- Following the transition to FSSC 22000 V5.1, the certificates will be upgraded, even if the changes of the scheme are minor.

Initial certification audits (Stage 1 + Stage 2):

- both the Stage 1 and Stage 2 audit shall be conducted to Version 5.1 when the audit takes place from April 1st 2021 onwards

or

- conduct the Stage 1 to Version 5 (when conducted before April 1st 2021) and Stage 2 to Version 5.1 when conducted on or after April 1st 2021.

Recertification audits may be conducted directly from Version 4.1 to Version 5.1 where the recertification audit takes place on or after April 1st 2021 as a result of a certificate validity extension due to Corona. In these cases, the first surveillance audit shall also be conducted in 2021 to meet the calendar year and certification requirements.

An **upgrade audit is a full audit against the new FSSC 22000 V5.1** requirements and may be conducted unannounced where needed in order to meet the 3-yearly unannounced audit requirements.

For any information regarding the transition process presented in this policy we are at your disposal.

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