

FSSC 22000

Certification scheme for food safety systems
in compliance with
ISO 22000: 2005 and technical specifications for
sector PRPs

Part III

REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS FOR PROVIDING ACCREDITATION

Foundation for Food Safety Certification

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1. INTRODUCTION

Purpose

This part of the scheme contains the requirements for the accreditation process for certification bodies (CBs) that wish to apply for accreditation in conformance with this scheme. It consists of:

- the requirements for accreditation and
- the regulations for the assignment of accreditation bodies.

Standards, guidelines and IAF membership

As indicated in Part II, the CBs shall operate a certification system which is in compliance with the requirements of the standard ISO/IEC 17021 and with the complementary requirements of ISO/TS 22003. The assessment of the CB by the AB shall therefore be conducted against these requirements with reference to the normative requirements for the organizations which are granted certification. The latter are outlined in section 3 of Part I and are in compliance with ISO 22000 and the applicable technical specification for sector PRPs and a number of additional requirements.

In order to ensure that the ABs operate to a high standard of competence and probity and that they apply the standards in a consistent and equivalent manner, they shall be member of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and a signatory to the IAF Multilateral Recognition Arrangement.

Additional requirements

To meet the needs of the key stakeholders and/or to ensure adequate control of food safety and certification, specific requirements are included in this scheme. They may be an elaboration of the clauses in the standards and technical specifications of the food safety system and certification system or additional requirements and are included in the sections “Additional requirements” of Part I and II. These requirements shall be included or implemented in the certification system and shall also be assessed in the accreditation process. They are therefore included in the section “Additional requirements” of this Part.

Also it may be necessary to elaborate clauses in the standard for the accreditation system ISO/IEC 17011 or to add requirements to these criteria. When this appears from the three yearly review of the scheme by the Board or when the Board takes decisions in this area in one of its three yearly meetings, these specific requirements are also included in the section “Additional requirements” of this Part.

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCREDITATION

2.1 Requirements

Accreditation system

ABs that provide accreditation to CBs that wish to offer certification in conformance with this scheme shall meet the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011 and shall be a member of the International Accreditation Forum, IAF and a signatory to the IAF ISO/IEC 17021 (QMS/EMS) multilateral recognition arrangement.

Criteria for providing accreditation

The CBs shall be accredited in compliance with:

- ISO/IEC 17021 and ISO/TS 22003
- the additional requirements as specified in the sections 2.1 and 2.2, and specifically the requirements as included in the appendices (IIA, IIB and IIC) these sections refer to.

The CB shall have a provisional contract with the Foundation to certify within the applied scope for a maximum of one year without being accredited. A contract between the CB and the Foundation will only be signed up after it has been accredited.

Scope of accreditation

The scope of accreditation shall be precisely defined and indicated on the certificate of accreditation with reference to:

- this scheme FSSC 22000
- the normative requirements for providing certification in the sections 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 of Part I
- the category as indicated in Annex A of ISO/TS 22003.

2.2 Additional requirements

Accreditation system

Accreditation bodies shall act conform the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011 and GFSI Requirements on the Application of ISO/IEC 17011:2004.

2.3 Guidance

No guidance as yet.