

# Control safety

Are you prepared for your BRCGS Packaging Materials Issue 7 audit?

## CHECKLIST

Tick the statements that apply to you or your company to understand which new BRCGS Packaging Issue 7 requirements you already meet and those that may need further attention.

This checklist outlines the new requirements in BRCGS Packaging Issue 7.

### Important disclaimer

## Product Safety Culture

### Clause 1.1:

The site's senior management shall demonstrate full commitment to product safety and quality culture. This includes the development, implementation, and maintenance of a documented plan to improve product safety and quality culture. The plan must:

- Include defined activities to promote product safety culture, such as communication, training, and performance measurement.
- Be reviewed and updated at least annually.

## Hazard Analysis and Risk Assessment (HARA)

### Clause 2.1:

A hazard analysis and risk assessment (HARA) shall align with Codex Alimentarius principles, identifying all hazards to product safety and implementing control measures.

**Clause 2.2:**

The site shall verify the accuracy of process flow diagrams at least annually and whenever changes occur. Verification shall be conducted on-site and documented.

## Supplier Approval and Monitoring

**Clause 3.5:**

The site shall implement a risk-based approach to supplier approval and ongoing monitoring. This includes:

- Defining supplier performance criteria.
- Approving suppliers based on valid certification, audits, or questionnaires.
- Maintaining a current list or database of approved suppliers.

**Clause 3.6:**

A procedure shall be in place to assess and mitigate risks of fraudulent raw materials. The vulnerability assessment must consider historical evidence, economic factors, and supplier relationships.

## Artwork and Print Control

**Clause 5.3:**

- The site shall establish an artwork management procedure that includes:
  - Collection, review, and approval of artwork files from the customer.
  - Verification of artwork against agreed specifications before printing.
- Print trials shall be conducted to validate that agreed standards are met consistently.

## Traded Products

**Clause 9.1:**

Traded products, including single-use disposable items, shall be included within the scope of certification where applicable.

**Clause 9.2:**

A HARA plan specific to traded products shall be implemented to identify and control risks to product safety and quality. This plan must be documented and reviewed at regular intervals.

## Audit Protocols

**Clause 10.1:**

The site may conduct blended audits, combining remote and on-site elements. The remote audit component must follow defined protocols to ensure compliance.

**Clause 10.2:**

A HARA plan specific to traded products shall be implemented to identify and control risks to product safety and quality. This plan must be documented and reviewed at regular intervals.

## Terminology and Documentation

### **Clause 11.1:**

Terminology used in the standard has been updated. “Personnel” is replaced with “staff”, and “manufacturing” with “production” to provide consistent language across the documentation.

### **Clause 11.2:**

All safety-related documentation, including product safety culture plans and hazard assessments, shall be thoroughly maintained and readily accessible to demonstrate compliance and support continuous improvement.

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