



BRCGS Food Safety

Frequently asked questions





Frequently asked questions

BRCGS Food Safety certification can help you demonstrate your commitment to food safety while increasing confidence in your brand. In this document, we answer some frequently asked questions regarding BRCGS Food Safety certification.

Q | 1. What is BRCGS?

A

BRCGS is a global consumer protection organisation with a clear mission to improve brand confidence for organisations through rigorous supply chain assurance. GFSI market leaders, BRCGS certification is now often a fundamental requirement for leading retailers, manufacturers and food service organisations.

Q | 2. What is the BRCGS Food Safety standard?

A

First published in 1998, BRCGS Food Safety standard provides a framework to manage product safety, integrity, legality and quality, plus the operational controls for these criteria in the food and food ingredient manufacturing, processing and packing industry. The Global Standard for Food Safety is recognised by the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), meaning successful certification helps your business retain or unlock access to key markets.

Q | 3. What are the benefits of BRCGS Food Safety certification

A

New business opportunities

Improve your ability to work with the many organisations for which BRCGS certification is a contractual obligation or expectation.

Customer confidence in your brand

The Standard helps you protect your brand, giving customers confidence in your production programmes and supply chain management.

Supply chain access

The Global Standard for Food Safety is accepted and specified by many global retailers, manufacturers, ingredients companies, food service organisations, and raw material processors as part of their supplier approval process.

Competitive advantage

Certification against one of the leading standards in your sector sets you apart from uncertified competitors.



Q

4. I'm currently certified against BRCGS Food Safety version 8, what happens now that BRCGS Food Safety version 9 has been released?

A

There is a hard changeover on 1st February, if your audit is due prior to 1st February 2023 then the audit will be against BRCGS Food 8 if your audit is due after 1st February your audit will be against BRCGS food 9.

Q

5. What are the key requirement changes in the latest version (V9) of the BRCGS Food Safety standard?

A

There have been minor changes in the standard to bring the standard in line with the GFSI benchmark requirements. Other changes expand on the existing food safety and quality culture requirements. There has also been a minor update to HACCP to bring the section in line with the latest version of Codex Alimentarius. Changes have been made to outsourced process controls and traded good section to ensure that the site has conducted an effective HACCP.

Q

6. What are the key protocol changes in the latest version (V9) of the BRCGS Food Safety standard?

A

The protocol has been updated to reflect the latest changes already in place, namely the introduction of the potential for a Blended audit and the changes to the announced scheme where over a 3-year cycle at least one audit needs to be unannounced.



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About LRQA:

Bringing together unrivalled expertise in certification, brand assurance and training, LRQA is one of the world's leading providers of food safety and assurance solutions. Working together with farms, fisheries, food manufacturers, restaurants, hotels, and global retailers, we help manage food safety and sustainability risks throughout supply chains and have become a leading global assurance provider.

We're proud of our heritage, but it's who we are today that really matters, because that's what shapes how we partner with our clients tomorrow. By combining strong values, decades of experience in risk management and mitigation and a keen focus on the future, we're here to support our clients as they build safer, more secure, more sustainable businesses.

From independent auditing, certification and training; to technical advisory services; to real-time assurance technology; to data-driven supply chain transformation, our innovative end-to-end solutions help our clients negotiate a rapidly changing risk landscape – making sure they're shaping their own future, rather than letting it shape them.

Get in touch

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