

Control safety

FSSC 22000 frequently asked questions

What's new in FSSC 22000 Version 6?

LRQA

What is FSSC 22000?

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FSSC 22000 is a food safety management system certification scheme that is based on the ISO 22000 standard and includes additional requirements for the prerequisite programs of the food industry. FSSC 22000 provides a framework for effectively managing food safety hazards, ensuring regulatory compliance, and improving efficiency within the food supply chain.

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1. What is new with FSSC 22000 version 6?

FSSC 22000 Version 6 (V6) incorporates new vital requirements for organizations looking to embed a food safety culture and conform to globally recognized standards.

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The latest update incorporates the requirements of ISO 22003-1:2022 and contains strengthened requirements to support organizations in their contributions to meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Version 6 also focuses on editorial changes and amendments as part of continuous improvement.

The publication of FSSC 22000 V6 will be at the beginning of April 2023.

Transferring to FSSC 22000 version 6

Between April 2023 and April 2024, there will be a 12-month implementation period to allow users of the standard to review their systems and build in the new requirements. After 31st March 2024, no audits against FSSC 22000 V5.1 will be conducted.

New to the FSSC 22000 Standard?

For those who are new to the standard entirely and have never been audited before, the version they will be audited against is dependent on when the audit takes place.

[Contact us to find out more →](#)



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2. What are the benefits of FSSC 22000?

A

There are 4 BRCGS standards for certification for food manufacturing, package manufacturing and storage and distribution. The BRCGS Food, Packaging and Storage Distribution standards are all GFSI Benchmarked as equivalent to FSSC, IFS, and SQF standards.

New business

FSSC 22000 certification improves your ability to work with the many organizations for whom FSSC 22000 is a contractual obligation.

Customer confidence

FSSC 22000 enhances your reputation, giving your customers confidence in your production and supply chain management system.

Client approved

Many retailers, manufacturers, ingredients companies, food service organizations and raw material processors specify FSSC 22000 as part of their supplier approval process.

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3. How long does FSSC 22000 certification last?

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Once approved, certification is valid for three years, subject to effective system maintenance demonstrated through 12 monthly audits.

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4. How much does FSSC 22000 certification cost?

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The cost of FSSC 22000 certification varies depending on multiple factors, such as the size of the organization, the organization structure, and the scope of the certification.

[Contact us to request a quote based on your specific needs](#) →



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5. What is the typical FSSC 22000 certification process?

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The path your organization takes to achieve FSSC 22000 certification depends on your business's size, maturity, and existing approach to managing risk, amongst other factors. But the standard process to becoming FSSC certified includes three main steps.

Your organization can request a voluntary FSSC 22000 pre-audit as preparation for the initial FSSC 22000 certification audit. When your organization is ready, request the initial certification audit. The auditor will go on-site to review your food safety and quality systems, products and production processes in line with FSSC 22000 requirements. The auditor will issue an action plan listing all the findings and your company will have to complete it detailing the implemented corrections, root cause and the corrective action plans. The report and action plan released by the auditor is the subject of an independent technical review. Based on the result of the technical review, the certificate issuance is recommended or not.

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6. Does GFSI recognise FSSC 22000?

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Yes, FSSC 22000 is recognized by the GFSI. Organizations certified with FSSC 22000 can be recognized worldwide by manufacturers, retailers, and other food service organizations as having a food management system which meets international standards. Furthermore, organizations certified to FSSC 22000 may be eligible to participate in other GFSI-recognized schemes such as SQF and BRCGS.

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7. What is the difference between ISO 22000 and FSSC 22000?

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ISO 22000 and FSSC 22000 are both international standards, designed to provide a food safety management system (FSMS). However, FSSC 22000 is recognized by GFSI. If your customers require you to be certified to a GFSI-recognized standard, then FSSC 22000 could be the most suitable for your organization because, in addition to GFSI, the scheme also uses ISO 22000 as the requirement for the management system. schemes such as SQF and BRCGS.

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Local & global expertise

Our highly skilled auditors are everywhere you are. Our global footprint means we can deliver a local service with the same dedication to quality and excellence.



Flexible delivery

In most cases, our FSSC 22000 training and certification services can be delivered on-site or remotely. If you opt for our remote delivery methods, you'll receive the same high-quality service with access to global expertise.



Beyond compliance

LRQA auditors are industry specialists who we match to your business, allowing a comprehensive audit of your system. We're experts not only in understanding the potential in cutting-edge ideas but in applying them pragmatically in ways which guarantee immediate and long-term impact.



Fresh thinking

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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