CERTIND POLICY ON TRANSITION FROM FSSC 22000 vs 4.1 TO FSSC 22000 vs 5

FSSC 22000 Foundation has published in December 2018 the technical document *Requirements for the FSSC 22000 V5 upgrade process*, through which it is announced the upgrade to FSSC 22000 V5, to be published in May 2019.

The main reasons for changes in the new version of FSSC 22000 V5 are:
• Publication of the new ISO 22000:2018 standard
• Inclusion of the Board of Stakeholders list of decisions
• Compliance with GFSI requirements
• Continual improvement process

The technical document states that audits against the FSSC 22000 Scheme requirements V4.1 are only allowed latest December 31st of 2019, following that all conformity certificates issued according to FSSC 22000 V4.1 will expire on 29.06.2021.

Thus, certified organizations according to FSSC 22000 V4.1 must comply to the following periods:
- May 2019 (after publication) – December 31st, 2019 – to implement the requirements of FSSC 22000 V5;
- 1st January 2020 - 31st December 2020 - upgrade audits against FSSC 22000 Scheme requirements V5 shall be conducted;

During 1st January 2019 - 31st December 2019, CERTIND will perform initial certifications, surveillances and recertifications for food safety management systems according to FSSC 22000 V 4.1.
CERTIND will perform upgrade audits against FSSC 22000 V5 after obtaining accreditation, during the current certification cycle, starting with 1st January 2020 and no later than 31st December 2020.
CERTIND will make certification decisions regarding the upgrade against FSSC 22000 V5 until 29.06.2021.

After performing transition audits against FSSC 22000 V5, CERTIND will issue a conformity certificate that will have the transition decision date and the expiry date according to a normal certification cycle.
Starting with 1st January 2020, CERTIND will perform initial certifications, surveillances and recertifications for food safety management systems only according to FSSC 22000 V5.

CERTIND encourages organizations that have certifications according to FSSC 22000 V4.1 to take the following actions:
a) Obtain a copy of ISO 22000:2018 and additional requirements of FSSC 22000 V5;
b) Identify the gaps in their food safety management system which need to be addressed to meet any new requirements.
c) Develop an implementation plan.
d) Ensure that any new competence needs are met and create awareness for all parties that have an impact on the effectiveness of the Food Safety Management Systems.
e) Update the existing Food Safety Management System to meet the new requirements of both ISO 22000:2018 and FSSC 22000 V5 and provide verification of its effectiveness (at least one complete internal audit and one management review).

Transition of certification activities

Transition activities will be performed during the planned surveillance or recertification audits.
In this situation, the audit time is not supplemented and remains the same as for a regular planned surveillance or recertification audit.

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The decision to issue certification to FSSC 22000 V5 Scheme shall only be made once actions in respect of all outstanding major non-conformities have been reviewed, accepted and verified and the client's corrective action plan for any minor non-conformity has been reviewed and accepted.

Following the assessments that will conclude that the certified organization has performed the transition to FSSC 22000 V5, CERTIND will issue a new conformity certificate.

In case of transition activities carried out during surveillance audits, the expiry date of the new conformity certificate will be the expiry date of the current certification cycle (3 years from the date of the decision for granting).

In case of transition activities carried out during recertification activities, the validity of the new conformity certificate will be 3 years from the expiry date of the previous certification cycle.

CERTIND encourages organizations that have a management system implemented in accordance with FSSC 22000 V4.1 to familiarize themselves with the requirements of the new revised standard ISO 22000:2018 and to initiate the transition process, and for organizations that intend to implement in the future a Food Safety Management System, to use ISO 22000:2018 as a reference document.

CERTIND will communicate to all client organizations that have FSSC 22000 V4.1, within max. 1 month, information about the publishing of FSSC 22000 V5/ 2019 requirements, through contact persons and on its website. Certind will be available for any information or clarifications regarding FSSC 22000 V5 Scheme (announced for May 2019) to all its clients or any organization interested in obtaining FSSC 22000 Certification.

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

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