Part 0: Definitions

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1 Definitions applicable throughout the Scheme

The following definitions apply to the terminology used in all FSSC 22000 Scheme documentation.

Accreditation
An attestation by an accreditation body that a certification body meets the requirements set out by the Foundation to carry out FSSC 22000 certification.

Accreditation body
An accreditation body (AB) is an appointed body that provides accreditation to certification bodies providing conformity assessment services.

Active materials and articles
1) Active materials and articles are materials and articles that are intended to
   a) extend the shelf-life, or
   b) maintain, or
   c) improve the condition of packaged food.
2) They are deliberately designed to incorporate components that would release or absorb substances into or from packaged food or the environment surrounding the food and examples are oxygen absorbers and desiccants.

Active materials and articles are food packaging based on the definition of food packaging (ISO/TS 22002-4).

Additive
1) Any substance, whether or not it has nutritive value, intentionally added to food or feed for technological (including organoleptic) purposes.
2) An additive substances is not normally
   a) consumed as a food or feed by itself or
   b) used as a typical ingredient of the food or feed.
3) Technological purposes include the manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or holding of such food.
4) The use of an additive results, or may be reasonably expected to result, (directly or indirectly) in it or its by-products becoming a component of or otherwise affecting the characteristics of such foods or feeds.
5) The term excludes “contaminants” or substances added to food or feed for maintaining or improving nutritional qualities.

Advisory Committee
A group of key stakeholders within the scope of the Scheme who advise the Board of Stakeholders.
### Animal feed

1) Feed given to domesticated animals in the context of animal husbandry.
2) There are two basic types of feed namely;
   a) fodder and
   b) forage.

**Note**

Used alone, the word;

a) *feed* usually means fodder fed to animals, whereas

b) *forage* usually refers to feed that animals find for themselves.

### Animal production

1) All operations related to activities carried out on farm premises (e.g. storage, sorting, cleaning, packing of unprocessed products, on-farm feed manufacturing, transport within the farm), to amongst others include both:
   a) the farming of living farm animals (e.g. cattle, poultry, pigs, fish/seafood, bees) and
   b) the handling of their products (e.g. milk, eggs, fish/seafood, honey).
2) The following activities are excluded:
   a) fishing, hunting, transportation of animals to or from the farm, and
   b) food processing activities carried out on farm premises (e.g. heating, smoking, curing, maturing, fermenting, drying, marinating, extraction, extrusion or a combination of those processes).

### Audit

Systematic, independent, documented process for obtaining records, statements of fact or other relevant evidence and assessing them objectively to determine the extent to which specified requirements are fulfilled.

### Auditor qualification

The process applied to confirm auditor competence.

### Black-out days

Time periods shared by the applicant/certified organization with the certification body that prevents the unannounced audit occurring when the organization is not operating for legitimate business reasons.

### Board of Stakeholders

The Board of Stakeholders (BoS) are a group of representatives appointed by the Scheme’s key stakeholders who are responsible for oversight including all certification and accreditation requirements.

### Catering

Preparation, storage and, where appropriate, delivery of food for consumption, at the place of preparation or a satellite unit.
**Category**
Food chain category for which a FSSC qualified auditor is qualified to conduct audits.

**Certification body**
A certification body (CB) is an organization providing conformity assessment services.

**Computer aided audit techniques**
Computer aided audit techniques (CAAT) are information technology based techniques such as webinars, telephone conferences, web-based access to documents (like records) used to access and gather evidence for use in audits.

**Critical nonconformity**
A nonconformity whereby food safety is directly impacted during the audit or when legality and/or certification integrity are at stake.

**Facility**
A building or structure that is used by an organization.

**Feed**
Any substance or product, whether processed or unprocessed, intended to be used for direct or indirect feeding of animals.

**Feed Manufacturing**
The manufacture (or processing) of materials intended to be consumed by animals and contribute energy and/or nutrients to their diet.

**Food**
1) Any substance, whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is intended for human consumption, and includes amongst others:
   a) drink,
   b) chewing gum and
   c) any substance that has been used in the manufacture, preparation or treatment of “food”.
2) The following are excluded from this definition:
   a) Cosmetics,
   b) Tobacco or
   c) Medicinal products, Over The Counter drugs (OTC), nutraceuticals and pharmaceuticals.

**Food Defense**
The process to prevent food and feed supply chains from all forms of ideologically or behaviourally motivated, intentional adulteration that might impact consumer health.
Food Fraud Prevention
The process to prevent food and feed supply chains from all forms of economically motivated, intentional adulteration that might impact consumer health.

Food/Feed Safety
The policies, processes and procedures, materials, facilities and monitoring systems applied to Food or Feed products to ensure they will not cause harm to humans or animals or adversely affect their health when utilised according to their intended purpose.

Food/Feed Safety Hazard
Biological, chemical, physical agent or allergen in food/feed, or condition of food/feed, with the potential to cause an adverse health effect to humans and/or animals (ISO 22000, section 3.3).

Foundation
The Foundation FSSC 22000.

GFSI
The Global Food Safety Initiative is an industry-driven initiative owned by the Consumer Goods Forum providing thought leadership and guidance on food safety management systems necessary for safety along the supply chain.

Ingredient
A processed or unprocessed component of food, feed or packaging.

Manufacturing/processing
The system of methods and techniques used to manufacture and supply food.

Management System
A management system of policies, processes, procedures, and records established and effectively implemented within an organization to ensure it consistently achieves its stated food safety and quality (if applicable) objectives.

Major nonconformity
A nonconformity that affects the capability of the management system to achieve the intended results.

Minor nonconformity
A nonconformity that does not affect the capability of the management system to achieve the intended results.
**Organization in the food chain**
The food or feed chain partner that is responsible for ensuring that products meet and, if applicable, continue to meet, the requirements on which the certification is based.

**Pet food for dogs and cats**
1) Any commercial food prepared and distributed for consumption by dogs and cats.
2) The definition includes;
   a) supplements or
   b) a food intended as a sole ration composed of vegetal (plant) or animal material.

**Pet food for other pets**
1) Any commercial food prepared and distributed for consumption by pet animals, other than cats or dogs, that may be kept at home as pets e.g. turtles, rabbits, birds, poultry
2) The definition includes;
   a) supplements or
   b) a food intended as a sole ration composed of vegetal (plant) or animal material
3) This definition also includes food produced for exotic and zoo-animals.

**Quality**
Product characteristics other than food safety such as size, colour, weight, taste, etc. to meet consumer expectations and applicable statutory or regulatory requirements.

**Raw Material**
A component of food, feed or packaging that has not undergone processing.

**Recall**
Removal of products from the market by public means, that are expected to cause adverse health effects to humans and/or animals as they do not meet food safety requirements.

**Retail**
Preparation, packaging, storage, serving, vending, selling or otherwise providing food for consumption direct to the public.

**Rework**
The re-utilisation of food or feed, ingredients or raw materials.

**Risk**
The product of the probability of an adverse health effect and the severity of that effect, consequential to hazard in food when prepared and consumed according to its intended use.
**Sanction Committee**
Committee that decides on possible sanctions based upon information provided by the Foundation in case of unacceptable CB performance.

**Scope**
The Scheme is intended for the audit, certification and registration of food safety management systems for the following scopes and product categories:

1) Manufacturing of food products
2) Manufacturing of food packaging and packaging material
3) Manufacturing of food and feed for animals
4) Animal farming
5) Transport and Storage
6) Catering
7) Retail

**Standard**
A set of requirements against which something can be measured, judged or evaluated.

**Tableware**
Consumer good products that come in contact with food and food packaging materials based on the definition included in ISO/TS 22002-4.

**The Board**
Foundation’s management board.

**The Scheme**
The FSSC 22000 certification Scheme for food safety management systems.

**Unannounced audit**
A full on-site surveillance audit that is conducted at the facility of the certified organization without prior notification of the audit date.

**Vehicle**
Any device used for the conveyance of raw material, ingredients, food, feed or packaging that is capable of being moved upon roadways, railways, waterways or airways.

**Witnessed audit**
Periodic on-site observation of an auditor by the approved supervisor of the CB in order to monitor and evaluate the performance of the auditor.