

Requirements for FSSC 22000 version 4 upgrade audits

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1 Introduction

The FSSC 22000 Board of Stakeholders (BoS) has determined that all certified organizations shall be audited against the FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1 starting January 1, 2018.

2 Accredited FSSC 22000 version 4.1 certification

2.1 Certification Body

A CB shall prepare itself to start offering accredited certification against FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1 by following the below mentioned steps:

- a) FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1 has been implemented in the CB management system following a gap analysis;
- b) Qualified auditors and other responsible personnel are trained for FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4;
- c) The inclusion of FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1 in the CB management system has been verified by an internal audit covering:
 - a. FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1
 - b. ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015¹
 - c. ISO/TS 22003:2013²
 - d. Information to certified organizations about FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1
 - e. Training of all CB personnel
- d) Any identified deficiencies shall be closed or covered by a corrective action plan that is implemented before December 31, 2017;
- e) Statement of management commitment confirming the CB is ready for and in compliance with FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1 requirements.

To achieve FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4 accreditation before January 1, 2018, CBs holding a FSSC 22000 license are expected to apply to their respective AB for extending their current ISO/IEC 17021-1 accreditation to FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4 before September 1, 2017 submitting the abovementioned information under 2.1a) to 2.1e).

The issuance of non-accredited FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1 certificates by a CB holding a current FSSC 22000 license is not allowed by FSSC 22000. However, a CB is allowed to offer non-accredited FSSC 22000 version 4.1 certification for new scopes (see section 7) provided that the license has been extended by the Foundation for (one of) the new FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1 certification scopes and the CB has applied for an extension of its accreditation scope to include (one or more of) the new scopes of certification of FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.

2.2 FSSC 22000 version 4.1

The Foundation has published FSSC 22000 version 4.1 in July, 2017. FSSC 22000 version 4.1 is a revision of version 4.0. The revision includes amongst others an update to GFSI Benchmarking Requirements document version 7.1, review of the contract between FSSC 22000 and licensed CBs, implementation of corrective actions

¹ Only applicable for certification bodies who are not yet accredited against ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015.

² Only applicable for certification bodies who are not yet accredited against ISO/TS 22003:2013

following the EA 1/22 evaluation process led by the home AB (RvA) and a corrigendum of version 4.0 due to CB and AB feedback.

Certification bodies are expected to upgrade their ongoing accreditation process to FSSC 22000 version 4.1 in order to acquire accreditation against FSSC 22000 version 4 before January 1, 2018.

2.3 Accreditation Body

Following CB applications requesting to extend their current accreditation to FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4, the AB shall verify the submitted information mentioned under 2.1a) to 2.1.e) through a desktop review. Provided the application is assessed by the AB with a favourable outcome, the CB accreditation scope extension for FSSC 22000 Scheme **version 4** can be granted. As a result a new CB accreditation certificate will be issued before 31 December 2017 to reflect the scope upgrade after which the CBs can start issuing accredited FSSC 22000 Scheme Version 4 certificates.

During the next scheduled CB surveillance audit, the AB shall verify the implementation of the FSSC 22000 Scheme **version 4.1** through the CB management system during the next annual on-site office assessments and witness audit(s).

3 Audit type

The audit to replace an existing FSSC 22000 Scheme certificate by a new FSSC 22000 Scheme version **4.1** certificate shall be called an upgrade audit which shall always be an announced audit.

4 Audit time calculation³

Additional audit time shall be needed to assess implementation of all the new FSSC 22000 Scheme version **4.1** requirements by a certified organization.

The audit time for an upgrade audit shall be calculated as follows:

- *Surveillance audit replaced by an upgrade audit*

The additional audit time for a scheduled surveillance audit, that is replaced by an upgrade audit, is 25% of the surveillance audit time⁴ with a minimum of 4 hours.

- *Recertification audit replaced by an upgrade audit*

The audit time shall be $2/3 T_s$ ⁵ plus the additional FSSC 22000 audit time.

5 FSSC 22000 audits in 2017

The year 2017 is a transition year and CBs that are accredited for FSSC Scheme 22000 **version 4** could offer audits and certification to clients who are ready for it.

5.1 Existing certificates

An existing FSSC 22000 Scheme version 3 certified organization could still be audited and certified against FSSC 22000 Scheme version 3 in 2017. However, the CB shall inform the client that the next scheduled audit in 2018 will be an upgrade audit.

A CB is allowed to conduct FSSC 22000 version 3 audits until December 31, 2017. The related audit report, certification decision and certificate issued could exceptionally take place in 2018. For this reason, the FSSC 22000 platform will support FSSC 22000 version 3 audit reports in the ADS and certificates until June 1, 2018.

³ FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4, Annex 2 of Part 4 is used as the reference for calculating the audit time

⁴ The surveillance audit time is $1/3 T_s$ plus the additional FSSC 22000 audit time.

⁵ $T_s = D + H + MS + FTE$

Existing FSSC 22000 Scheme version 3 certificates can be upgraded to an accredited FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1 certificate by a CB that is ready and accredited for FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.

6 FSSC 22000 version 4 upgrade audits

6.1 Scheduled recertification audit

In 2017 or 2018, a scheduled recertification audit could be replaced by an upgrade audit. After a successful upgrade audit, an FSSC 22000 version 4.1 certificate is issued by a version 4 accredited CB with a validity period of three years.

6.2 Scheduled surveillance audit

In 2017 or 2018, a scheduled surveillance audit could be replaced by an upgrade audit. After a successful upgrade audit, an FSSC 22000 version 4.1 certificate is issued by a version 4 accredited CB for the remaining validity period of the certificate.

7 New scopes of certification and new PRP standards

The following certification scopes shall only be offered using the FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1 certification process requirements:

- Retail;
- Catering;
- Transport and Storage;
- Feed based on ISO/TS 22002-6 (new PRP standard to replace the PAS 222);
- FSSC 22000-Quality (included new ISO 9001:2015 standard).

Unaccredited certificates based on FSSC 22000 Scheme version 4.1 may only be issued for the abovementioned new scopes as part of the accreditation process.