

## Guidance auditor competence – Packaging Materials

- The KTE [Knowledge, training, Experience] requirements for auditors in the packaging field should be equivalent to the requirements given in ISO 22003 for any other food chain category.
- ISO 17021 Section 7 makes clear that responsibility for determination of competence, and the means by which this is demonstrated, is with the CB:

17021: 7.1.1 “...**determine the means for the demonstration of competence** prior to carrying out specific functions”

17021: 7.1.3 “The CB shall have **documented processes** for the **initial competence evaluation, and on-going monitoring** of competence and performance of all personnel involved in the management and performance of audits and certification, applying the determined competence criteria. **The CB shall demonstrate that its evaluation methods are effective.** The outputs from these processes shall be to identify personnel who have demonstrated the level of competence required for the different functions of the audit and certification process.

- This means that the CB must interpret the requirements given in ISO 22003 7.2.4 with regard to the packaging category. This is achieved by:

7.2.4.1 Education: Applies as written. Use example d] from the list.

7.2.4.2 Food Safety Training: Applies as written. The final para requires the training to be relevant to the industry/category. The CB must specify what it accepts in the case of packaging.

7.2.4.3 Audit Training: Applies as written.

7.2.4.4 Work Experience: Applies as written. It should be noted that experience in food safety in processing and packing environments may have direct relevance for food packaging safety, whilst the reverse may not apply. The CB must specify what it accepts in the case of packaging

7.2.4.5 Audit Experience: Applies as written. It should be noted that the standard allows audit days dealing with ISO9001 in the food industry, as well as other FSMS audits to count toward the required totals.

7.2.5.6 Competences: The requirements given in 7.2.4.6.1 through 7.2.4.6.3 are generic and can be applied as written.