

FOOD SAFETY

# FSSC 22000 VERSION 6.0

## FAQS

Here is a list of the most frequently asked questions and their answers for the new FSSC 22000 V6.0

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### What is the change over date and how long is the transition period from V5.1 to V6.0 ?

The first audits to V6.0 will commence from 1 April 2024. V6.0 will have a 12-month transition window to allow organisations to prepare for the new Version and CBs for implementation and gaining accreditation.

### Does FSSC 22000 V6.0 replace FSSC-Quality ?

FSSC 22000-Quality has been removed from the Scheme. An additional requirement is now included in Scheme V6.0 on Quality Control. However, this only contains elements of Quality Control and is not equivalent to a Quality Management System (QMS). Organisations wanting a complete QMS certification still need certification against ISO 9001.

### How does FSSC 22000 V6.0 fit into an Integrated Management System (IMS) ?

FSSC 22000 fits perfectly into an IMS, as it is based on the ISO harmonised structure. Although V6.0 includes additional requirements on Quality Control and Quality Culture, the overall management system approach remains the same.

### Does the FSSC 22000 Scheme cover all the categories of ISO 22003-1:2022 ?

V6.0 of the Scheme covers (sub) categories: BIII, C (CO, CI, CII, CIII, CIV), D, E, F (FI, FII), G, I, and K.

### How does the new version align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals ?

The additional Food Loss and Waste requirements support a silo-breaking approach contributing towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### What does FSSC 22000 expect of organisations on the topic of Food Waste ?

Organisations must have a documented policy and objectives detailing its strategy to reduce Food Loss and Waste within the organisation and the related supply chain. The Foundation is developing a Guidance Document on this topic, which will be available later this year.

### Will there be a Guidance Document created for Food Waste ?

The Foundation is developing a Guidance Document on Food Loss and Waste, scheduled for release by the beginning of Q4 of 2023, 6 months before the first audit against V6.0 of the Scheme is delivered.

## Does the upgrade audit need to be delivered as an announced audit ?

The upgrade audit may be conducted, announced, or unannounced if the latter meets the 3-yearly unannounced audit requirements.

## Is a full remote audit possible ?

A full remote audit is only applicable in the case of a serious event and can only be applied where the requirements of the Full Remote Audit Addendum have been met. Category FII (Trading and Brokering) is the exception to this rule, where a full remote audit is allowed under normal circumstances in the case of surveillance audits; the requirements of the Full Remote Audit Addendum must also be met.

## Is the audit preparation and reporting time still the same as for V5.1 ?

The preparation time remains the same. However, for V6.0 the reporting time has been increased to at least 1.0 auditor days (8 working hours) to ensure sufficient time is provided for auditors to construct the audit report following the requirements of Annex 2 of the Scheme.

## Why has the audit duration increased for audits conducted to V6.0 ?

Audit duration has increased to ensure a robust audit is delivered, meeting the audit objectives and accommodating the new additional requirements included in V6.0 of the Scheme. The updated version of ISO 22003-1:2022 mandates additional duration for FSSC audits.

## What are the consequences if my certificate still needs to be upgraded to V6 after the V5.1 period ends ?

All remaining V5.1 certificates will automatically be set to withdrawn in the Assurance Platform after 31 May 2025 and will no longer be visible on the FSSC 22000 public register of certified organizations on the FSSC website.

## Our organisation is planning to go for initial FSSC 22000 certification in 2024. Do the Stage 1 and Stage 2 audits need to be conducted against the same version of the Scheme ?

Both the Stage 1 and Stage 2 audit must be conducted to V6.0 when the audit takes place from 1 April 2024 onwards.

OR

Conduct the Stage 1 audit to V5.1 (when conducted before 1 April 2024) and Stage 2 to V6.0 (when conducted on or after 1 April 2024). This is as per the V6.0 Upgrade Process document, Section 2.2.2.1 (1).

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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