BRC GLOBAL STANDARDS INTRODUCE THE START! PROGRAMME TO COMPLEMENT THE FOOD SAFETY STANDARD

BRC Global Standards are pleased to announce on 17 December 2018 they will introduce the START! Programme, a Standard that complements the Standard for Food Safety. As certification to BRC Global Standards continues to develop, it is important to provide opportunities to recognise and encourage the development of food safety systems in small sites where the full requirements of the Standard may not always be practical or add value and in sites that are still developing food safety management systems. The START! Programme is aligned with the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) Global Markets Programme. The START! Programme will enable audits and certification against two levels of requirements: basic and intermediate.

The basic and the intermediate level requirements of the START! Programme provide recognised stepping stones towards eventual certification to the full Food Standard. They also provide assurance to customers about the food safety systems operating at those supply sites that have gained certification at either of these two levels.
The scope of the START! Programme

The START! Programme sets out the requirements for the manufacture of processed foods and the preparation of primary products supplied as retailer-branded products, branded food products, and food or ingredients for use by food service companies, catering companies and food manufacturers. The audit and certification will apply only to products that have been manufactured or prepared at the site where the audit has taken place and will include storage facilities that are under the direct control of the production site management.

The START! Programme does not apply to food products that do not undergo any process at the audited site or to activities relating to wholesale, importation, distribution or storage outside the direct control of the company.

“As part of our growth strategy, we want to provide market leading solutions across the supply chain, said David Brackston, Technical Director BRC Global Standards. It is exciting to think that the START! Standard will provide a clearly defined audit and certification process operated in accordance with the requirements of accreditation and is intended as a minimum to assist small sites to comply with legislative requirements for food safety.”

Notes to Editors

About BRC Global Standards

BRC Global Standards is a leading brand and consumer protection organization, used by over 28,000 suppliers in over 130 countries, with certification issued through a global network of accredited certification bodies. BRC Global Standards’ guarantee the standardization of quality, safety and operational criteria and ensure that manufacturers fulfil their legal obligations and provide protection for the end consumer. BRC Global Standards are now often a fundamental requirement of leading retailers, manufacturers and food service organizations.
The BRC Global Standards certification scheme offers comprehensive support to help new and established businesses to achieve and maintain their quality and safety aims.

For more information please visit www.brcglobalstandards.com

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