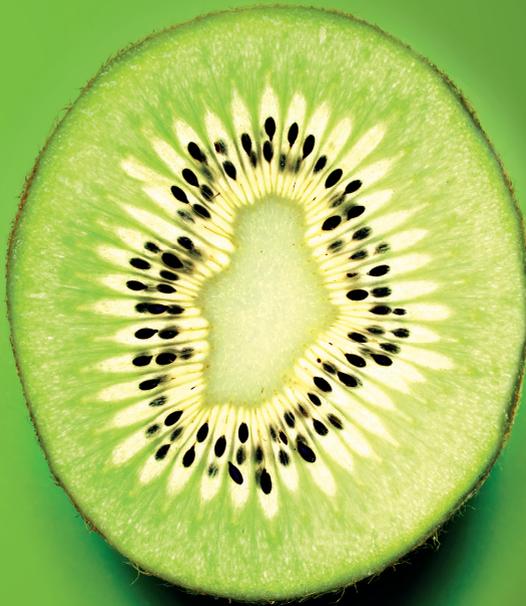




GLOBAL STANDARD
FOOD SAFETY ISSUE 7

GLOBAL MARKETS



THE BRC GLOBAL MARKETS PROGRAMME

THE NEED FOR A NEW PROGRAMME

As certification to the BRC Global Standard for Food Safety continues to grow, we want to provide opportunities to recognise and encourage the development of food safety systems in small sites where the full requirements of the Standard may add less value, and in sites that are still developing food safety management systems. The new Global Markets programme will now enable audits and recognition against a set of requirements of the Standard identified as basic level and a further set of requirements at intermediate level.

The programme is designed to help factories progress towards full certification. The levels also provide recognition of attainment at basic and intermediate levels, which are increasingly recognised by customers as providing assurance about the food safety systems operated at their supply sites.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE GLOBAL MARKETS PROGRAMME

All the clauses at the basic and intermediate levels are the same as or closely derived from the clauses in the full Standard. The requirements at the basic level are designed to ensure legal compliance as a minimum, and are equivalent to or exceed the requirements of the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) basic level.

The requirements of the intermediate level build upon legal compliance to include more detailed requirements, an expansion of the HACCP process and the development of a documented quality management system.

Each requirement is numbered according to the relevant clause number in the main Standard, and this helps to identify those areas needing further consideration when moving up from the intermediate level to full certification.

BENEFITS

Adoption of the programme offers a number of benefits to food businesses. The programme:

- is aligned with the GFSI Global Markets programme allowing customers to recognise the levels attained
- provides a clearly defined audit and recognition process operated in accordance with the requirements of accreditation
- uses auditors that meet the same demanding BRC competency requirements as auditors used for the full Standard
- enables companies achieving basic and intermediate levels to appear in the publicly available part of the BRC Global Standards Directory, allowing recognition of their achievements
- uses requirements based on the BRC Global Standard for Food Safety, enabling the basic and intermediate levels to provide effective stepping stones towards full certification if required by customers
- requires completion of corrective actions on non-conformity to the Standard before award of recognition at the basic or intermediate level, thus reducing the need for customers to follow up audit reports.

BRC have a growing range of helpful guidelines aimed directly at sites in the Global Markets programme. You can find out more by using any of the resources below.

To learn more about the BRC Global Standards certification programme please visit WWW.BRCGLOBALSTANDARDS.COM

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