GFSI Certification:

How Third-Party Certification Benefits Your Compliance Program

David Ernst, Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP

&

Ryan Fothergill, Primus Labs

Why Third-Party Certification Matters

Customer Demands

- Retailer/Buyer
- Individual Consumers

Government Regulations

- FSMA

Business in a FSMA World

New food safety requirements for both domestic and foreign suppliers.

Domestic Food

- Produce Safety Rule
- Preventive Controls Rule

Foreign Food

- Foreign Supplier Verification Program
- Voluntary Qualified Importer Program
- Accreditation of Third-Party Auditors

Benefits of Third-Party Certification

1 • Safety of Products

2 • Food Safety Management Systems

3 • Customer and Government Food Safety Standards

4 • Market Access

Comparing Food Safety Standards

"At the heart of the decision as to which scheme is best for a particular organization is having *a clear understanding of the customer and regulatory requirements that affect the organization's business and therefore need to be covered by the chosen audit*."

Comparing Food Safety Standards

- Primary Four Schemes:
  - British Retail Consortium (BRC)
  - International Featured Standards (IFS)
  - Safe Quality Foods (SQF)
  - Food Safety System Certification (FSSC)

Comparing Food Safety Standards

	BRC	IFS	SQF	FSSC
Scopes	*see next slide	*see next slide	*see next slide	*see next slide
System Requirements	Quality and Food Safety	Quality and Food Safety	Level 2 Food Safety; Level 3 Includes Quality	Food Safety
Certificate Validity	Generally, 1 year	1 year	Generally, 1 year	3 years
Certification Mark	Not allowed on product	Not allowed on product	Allowed on Level 3 certified products	Not allowed on product

GFSI Recognized Scheme Scopes

Farming of Animals, Fish, Produce, Grains, and Pulses
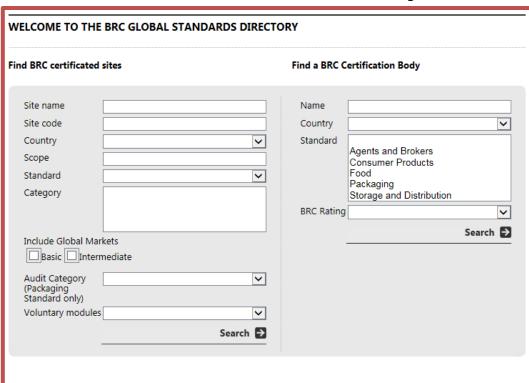
Pre-Processing of Plant Products

Processing of Animals, Plants, and Ambient Stables

Production of Feed, Biochemicals, and Food Packaging

Provision of Storage and Distribution Services

Choosing a Certification Body

- Factors:
  - Scope Match
  - Availability of Auditors
  - Regional Presence
  - Scheduling
  - Audit Duration
  - Costs
  - Certification Body's Rating

WELCOME TO THE BRC GLOBAL STANDARDS DIRECTORY

Find BRC certificated sites

Site name	
Site code	
Country	
Scope	
Standard	
Category	

Include Global Markets
☐ Basic ☐ Intermediate

Audit Category (Packaging Standard only)

Voluntary modules

Search ➡

Find a BRC Certification Body

Name	
Country	
Standard	Agents and Brokers / Consumer Products / Food / Packaging / Storage and Distribution
BRC Rating	

Search ➡

HOW TO SEARCH THE DIRECTORY FOR CERTIFICATED SUPPLIERS

Site name

If you know the name of the company you wish to view, enter the company name in full or in part. The search will list all possible matches. Only sites currently within certification will be displayed

Scope

If you are looking for a specific product, the Scope field will complete a keyword search of all certificated site's scope descriptions. The search function is word specific and does not recognise local variances in terminology - for example a search for an aubergine will not find results for egg plants.

Category

A site search can be made Standard and Category specific by using the product category filter. Sites audited prior to July 1st 2008 will appear in the Food 4 search results.

Pre-Audits and Audits

Pre-Audits
- Optional in schemes
- More consultative
- Reduce cost and time of audit

Audits
- Observing company's system
- Identifying non-conformances, if any

THANK YOU!

Dave Ernst

Partner, Davis Wright Tremaine

DavidErnst@dwt.com, 503-778-5385

Ryan Fothergill

In-House Counsel, Primus Labs

Ryan.Fothergill@PrimusLabs.com, 805-922-0055