



# PRESS RELEASE

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 - Paris, France

## FSSC 22000 gains full approval from GFSI

*FSSC 22000 reached a milestone in their history today when it was announced the scheme had met with full recognition by the Global Food Safety Initiative.*

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 - The Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), managed by The Consumer Goods Forum, announced today that the FSSC 22000 scheme, managed by The Foundation for Food Safety Certification, based in the Netherlands has been given full recognition by the Global Food Safety Initiative Board of Directors. This follows an extensive benchmarking process using the requirements laid out in the GFSI Guidance Document Version 5, and an addendum which was issued in December 2009.

GFSI has recognized FSSC 22000 for the scopes of the processing of animal and vegetal perishable products as well as processing of long shelf life ambient products and food ingredients (ref. ISO/TS 22003 Food Chain Category Scopes C, D, E and L (biocultures, additives and vitamins only).

The FSSC scheme is based on the internationally recognized standard ISO 22000 and the British Standards Institute (BSI) specification PAS 220, and integrates additional auditing protocol required to meet GFSI requirements.

The FSSC scheme is now working with accreditation bodies to provide accreditation for certification bodies against the scope of ISO 17021 and ISO 22003. Unaccredited certificates will be issued against the FSSC scheme until full accreditation status has been achieved by the certification bodies.

This benchmarking process has been completed using an internationally accepted set of food safety requirements, based on industry best practice and sound science, which are developed through a consensus building process by key stakeholders in the food supply chain. These requirements can be found in the GFSI Guidance Document Version 5, and addendum which are freely available for download on [www.mygfsi.com](http://www.mygfsi.com).

Due to the common acceptance of GFSI recognized schemes in the global market place, this move will help to drive cost efficiency and consistency in supply chains around the world when sourcing food and deliver greater confidence to the end users of third party certification, whilst providing flexibility and choice for retailers and manufacturers alike.

Jürgen Matern, Chairman of the Global Food Safety Initiative Board of Directors and Vice President, Strategic Quality Management, Metro AG said *"The GFSI Board of Directors is pleased to recognise the development of this scheme which has been a true collaboration of stakeholders across the whole food chain."*

### About GFSI

The GFSI, managed by the Consumer Goods Forum, was set up in 2000 to pursue continuous improvement in food safety management systems, cost efficiency in the supply chain and, above all, safe food for consumers worldwide.

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## About FSSC

FSSC 22000 is a complete certification scheme for Food Safety Systems, owned by the non-profit Foundation for Food Safety Certification which manages the copyright and the license agreements for certification bodies.

The FSSC 22000 certification scheme is maintained by the Board of Stakeholders of the Foundation. Board members consist of representatives of trade and industry, authorities and other interested parties. The Board complies with the requirements set by the accreditation bodies which are member of the IAF multilateral recognition agreement.

[www.fssc22000.com](http://www.fssc22000.com)

## GFSI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## The Consumer Goods Forum

The Consumer Goods Forum is an independent global parity-based Consumer Goods network. It brings together the CEOs and senior management of around 650 retailers, manufacturers, service providers and other stakeholders across 70 countries.

The Forum was created in June 2009 by the merger of CIES - The Food Business Forum, the Global Commerce Initiative (GCI) and the Global CEO Forum. The Consumer Goods Forum is governed by its Board of Directors, which includes an equal number of manufacturer and retailer CEOs and chairpersons. Forum member companies have combined sales of EUR 2.1trillion.

The Forum provides a unique global platform for thought leadership, knowledge exchange and networking between retailers, manufacturers and their partners on collaborative, non-competitive issues. Its strength lies in the privileged access it offers to the key players in the sector as well as in the development and implementation of best practices along the value chain.

It has a mandate from its members to develop common positions on key strategic and practical issues affecting the consumer goods business and to focus on non-competitive collaborative process improvement. With its headquarters in Paris and its regional offices in Washington, D.C., Singapore, Tokyo and Shanghai, The Consumer Goods Forum serves its members throughout the world.

**For more information, please visit [www.mygfsi.com](http://www.mygfsi.com)**

**This press release is also available on the website <http://www.theconsumergoodsforum.com>**

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