



**A GLOBAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR**

**RETAIL, WHOLESALE AND  
E-COMMERCE**



The retail and wholesale sector is a complex and vulnerable part of the food supply chain. Any upstream failure can result in unsafe products and high-impact incidents, resulting in loss of consumer trust and significant damage to brand reputation.

Aside from selling food products, in-store activities like cutting or portioning meat, fish, or cheese add to the complexity of retail and wholesale processes. Many large retail and wholesale organizations have stores that are involved or operating in different countries.

Food safety needs to be assured by both centralized and decentralized processes; effective communication and control processes are critical to ensure food safety.

[FSSC 22000](#) provides a certification Scheme that ensures a robust Food Safety Management System (FSMS) for controlling food safety hazards, minimizing risks, and assisting in ensuring the production and sale of safe food. Reliably providing safe food contributes to consumer trust and eventually consumer loyalty.

FSSC 22000 uses international standards: ISO 22000 for FSMS and the publicly available specification (PAS) 221, the requirements for pre-requisite programs for retail and wholesale. The FSSC 22000 Additional Requirements for certification ensure consistent, high-quality audits, which are monitored by an integrity program for measuring and maintaining audit performance worldwide.



## BENEFITS OF FSSC 22000 CERTIFICATION

- Protect your organization from risk with an international certification Scheme for Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS) that is flexible enough to cover multiple sectors in the supply chain.
- FSSC 22000 incorporates ISO 22000 for FSMS, which includes the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Principles of Codex Alimentarius and BSI/ PAS 221:2013 - the sector-specific pre-requisite requirements for retail - with the [FSSC 22000 Additional Requirements](#).
- FSSC 22000 fosters the delivery of safe food to your consumers and customers and, as a side benefit, also elevates the quality of your products and services due to its Additional Requirements on Quality Control.
- Free from biased leadership, FSSC 22000 is governed by a non-profit foundation and managed by an independent Board of Stakeholders.
- FSSC 22000 can integrate your FSMS with other ISO Management Systems. These may include ISO 9001 Quality Management, ISO 14001 Environmental Management, ISO/ IEC 27001 Information Security Management, and the ISO aligned [FSSC 24000 Scheme](#) for Social Management Systems.
- FSSC 22000 certification delivers high-quality and consistent audits monitored by a robust [integrity program](#) and verified by licensed Certification Bodies and qualified auditors.
- FSSC 22000 is approved by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), providing international acceptance and assurance that accredited certificates can be relied on. One key benefit for the retail and wholesale sector is the allowance for multisite certification.
- Assists you with meeting relevant regulatory and legislative requirements.
- Actively contributing to multiple Sustainable Development Goals, such as Responsible Consumption and Production, Good Health and Well-Being, and Zero Hunger, FSSC 22000 delivers positive impact beyond food safety.

## SECTORS IN THE FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN

TRANSPORT AND STORAGE

Category G



TRADING, BROKERING AND E-COMMERCE

Category FI



FOOD PACKAGING MANUFACTURING

Category I



CATERING AND FOOD SERVICE

Category E



FOOD MANUFACTURING

Category BIII, C0, CI, CII, CIII, CIV, K



ANIMAL FEED PRODUCTION

Category D



RETAIL, WHOLESALE AND E-COMMERCE

Category FI



### SCOPE

FSSC 22000 can be applied to all retail and wholesale organizations that sell food, including:

- Supermarkets and hypermarkets
- Wholesale (cash and carry) stores
- Convenience stores
- Warehouse retailers



# CERTIFICATION PROCESS

FSSC 22000 requires that food safety practices be designed, documented, implemented, and managed to maintain reliable processes and conditions for producing safe food. At the same time, FSSC 22000 provides enough flexibility to effectively oversee diverse operations and materials. The following steps explain how to successfully earn certification:



“SSAFE is proud to be a member of the FSSC Board of Stakeholders. The strength of the FSSC 22000 program helps advance food safety around the world – something which SSAFE supports and encourages. The continued improvement of food safety systems across the entire food supply chain is important to help drive confidence and build trust that food is safe to trade and consume. FSSC plays an important role in helping to establish that trust.”

**SSAFE**

## 1 EXPLORE

- Download all relevant requirements on the [Documents page of our website](#).
- Obtain all related normative standards: [ISO 22000](#) and [BSI/PAS 221:2013](#).

## 2 PREPARE

- Contact an FSSC 22000-licensed [Certification Body](#).
- Implement the requirements and, if needed, perform a GAP analysis to identify conformance.
- Arrange an audit of your Food Safety Management System and facilities by the Certification Body. Implement any corrective actions in case of non-conformities.

## 3 CERTIFY

- Once the audit is deemed successful, the Certification Body will register the certificate.
- Annual surveillance audits are conducted to maintain certification (including one unannounced audit every three years).
- Recertification every three years.

### ABOUT THE FOUNDATION FSSC

Foundation FSSC is the leading global non-profit and independent Scheme owner to provide trust and deliver impact to the consumer goods industry and related supply chain. Since 2009, we have been dedicated to continuous improvement of global food safety, and in 2022, we expanded our scope to social responsibility. At FSSC, we support the consumer goods industry in implementing ISO-aligned management systems, reaching their certification objectives, and helping to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals. We provide trust to our licensed partners through a robust integrity program and an advanced assurance platform. **Join us at [www.fssc.com](http://www.fssc.com)**