

NEW IFS Broker version 3



“ Brokers, Agents, Traders and Importers are a meaningful link in the supply chain and play an increasingly important role in (inter)national trade. This new version including the changes made reflects the Brokers business in regard to product safety and quality aspects in a more tailored way. We have further increased the product integrity of the entire supply chain by incorporating requirements in regard to food fraud prevention as a new sub chapter. Therefore Brokers will be able to benefit from an IFS Broker Certification. ”

Sandra Schulte
IFS Deputy Technical Director

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Dear IFS Users,

First of all, thank you again for taking part in the online IFS Broker survey at the beginning of 2018 as well as the public consultation period in April 2019.

Based on the outcome, we are happy to introduce the IFS Broker Standard Version 3, which is now available in English. Other languages will also soon be available. Please follow this link to download the Standard:

[IFS Broker version 3](#) >

General information

IFS Broker is a Standard for auditing/assessing services compliance of companies/persons who carry out trading activities related to food, household and personal care products and/or packaging materials.

Brokers using this Standard benefit from many advantages of the IFS right from the start, such as:

- Visibility and facilitation of market access
- Better acceptance along the whole supply chain
- Continuous improvement due to the differentiated IFS scoring system
- Subcontractor management in the IFS Database
- Ability to manage reports and compare your certified facilities in the IFS Database

- Provision of supporting tools for implementation through guidelines, training, webinars
- Measurable improvement of processes and thus prevention of issues and decrease in costs.

New Version

The IFS is currently in the GFSI benchmark procedure to ensure that IFS Broker will be a GFSI recognized standard soon.

Most relevant changes from version 2 to version 3 are:

- Review requirements to reflect the brokers business and responsibilities in a better way,
- More detailed requirements in regard to the Brokers' risk assessment process
- Introduction of requirements for food fraud mitigation,
- Alignment of the audit protocol with the other IFS Standards,
- Introduction of new glossary definitions (e.g. food fraud),
- Mandatory inclusion of QR-code on the IFS Certificate for being able to trace back their authenticity.

Your IFS Team

www.ifs-certification.com

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Certified Companies

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What does it mean for the trading branch?

The new version will be mandatory from 1st June 2020 but there is a transition period starting from 2nd January 2020, where companies can decide whether they want to be certified against version 2 or against the new version 3.

In order to prepare you for the new version, the IFS Academy will provide a free webinar about the main changes of the new version. To access the webinar on the 3rd of July and the recordings (afterwards), you will need to register on our eLearning platform. Go to:

> <https://www.ifs-certification.com/index.php/en/academy/webinars-elearning>

or watch our YouTube tutorial:

> <http://bit.ly/ifsacadregist>

Moreover, IFS is working with approved Training providers who will offer Industry Trainings for the new IFS Broker Version 3.

For more information please contact us:

> academy@ifs-certification.com

Registration for the unannounced option

Already certified companies that wish to use the unannounced option can be registered by their certification body if their active certificate is valid until at least 16th June 2020. The registration is possible from 1st January 2020.

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What does the new version mean for Certification Bodies?

Please note that all existing auditors will become familiar with the Standard's changes via a 1-day face-to face auditor training organized by IFS. Auditor trainings will start from July 2019. For more information and official training dates please visit the IFS Website: > www.ifs-certification.com

An upload of the audit report into the IFS Database can be done through the IFS Software auditXpressX. The updated software will be available from December 2019, so auditors will have the opportunity to get used to the new software version.