

FOOD SAFETY INSIGHT



Everybody eats... Everybody cares about food safety!

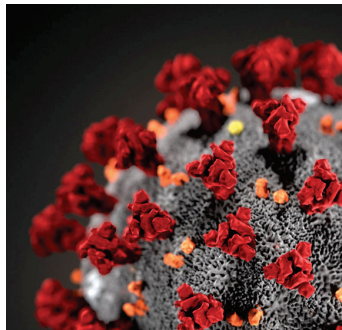


A Publication of Perry Johnson Registrars Food Safety, Inc.



COVID-19 Updates

While businesses in many parts of the US are beginning the careful process of reopening, the food industry has a range of guidance and differing positions posed by each authority.



BRCGS: Sites that are operational but cannot be physically audited due to COVID-19, extension of up to 6 months may be granted based upon completion of a risk assessment by the CB and a discussion with the site and review of procedures. Extensions can only be made to the current scope – no significant changes may be made. High risk (grade C or D) sites may not have extensions granted. Unannounced audits are temporarily suspended.

FSSC: Risk assessments for affected sites, postponed surveillance audits, continued certification, or extended certificates are required. Certificates can be extended up to 6 months.

GLOBALG.A.P.: Certificate validity may be extended beyond the 12 months (maximum period of 6 months) following CB-conducted risk assessment. If on-site audit is possible, extension cannot be granted. Extension is applicable to all add-ons assessed with GLOBALG.A.P. standards.

PrimusGFS: Offering a six-month extension (after risk assessment) to auditees effected by closures/restrictions. Remote Desk Document Review available.

SQF: Certificates can be extended once for up to six months following a risk assessment conducted by the CB. Surveillance audits are now allowed via remote activities. Unannounced audits are suspended until August 1st, 2020. No new certifications can be issued unless issued in-person.

FDA: For full FDA guidance, [visit their website here](#).

We understand that this is a confusing and difficult time for everyone, and as such PJRFSA is here to help guide you through the situation. If you have questions or concerns regarding your certification status, audits, or other questions, reach out to your scheduler or contact pjrfsi@pjrfsi.com. ♦

PJRFSA & GRMA

We are excited to announce PJRFSA's new status as a GRMA (Global Retailer and Manufacturing Alliance) Partner Member and Approved Certification Body! With this new approval, PJRFSA is now able to offer GRMA Certification in areas such as over-the-counter drugs, dietary supplements, and cosmetics.

The GRMA is an organization made up of retailers, manufacturers, trade associations, certification bodies, and other stakeholders invested in the success of the product supply chain. With the safety and quality of product and trust in manufacturers as key factors in today's markets, GRMA's united auditing certification program offers consensus-based quality system standards for Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs). They stand by the concept of "Building quality standards together."

To learn more about the GRMA and its membership, visit the GRMA website: <https://grmalliance.org>, and to learn more about PJRFSA's newest certification offerings, contact us! ♦



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GLOBALG.A.P. IFA V5.3 - GFS & Chain of Custody

GLOBALG.A.P. is full of updates! The updated version of the IFA (Integrated Farm Assurance) standard, IFA v5.3-GFS, has become obligatory as of May 21, 2020 for clients supply customers demanding compliance with GFSI-recognized standards. Changes included in the new version of the standard include Aquaculture, Fruit & Vegetables, and Hops; no changes have been made in the control points and compliance criteria of the Fruit & Vegetable sub-scope or the Aquaculture scope. For a full list of changes, [visit the GLOBALG.A.P website.](#)

PJRFSI has a new addition to our range of available GLOBALG.A.P. standards and add-ons; the GLOBALG.A.P. Chain of Custody (CoC) Standard! This standard is essential for producers and retailers handling GLOBALG.A.P.-certified products and ensures integrity of product through supply chain transparency. The CoC Standard keeps the status of your product easily identifiable from farm to store, laying out strict requirements for handling certified products and segregating certified and non-certified produce in processing operations.

To learn more about how GLOBALG.A.P. CoC could help your organization, contact PJRFSI! ♦



PJRFSI SVP Paul Damaren Appointed to OFPA Board

Congratulations to PJRFSI Senior VP of Food Safety & Supply Chain, Paul Damaren, for his recent addition to the OFPA (Ontario Food Protection Association) Board of Directors!



The OFPA is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing together food industry professionals and experts from across Ontario and beyond to promote, educate and communicate innovation in food safety.

[Click here to learn more!](#) ♦



Supply Chain Solutions

A chain is only as strong as its weakest link, and in the industry of food processing and production, failure anywhere along the chain can trigger a huge range of consequences including product recalls and consumer deaths. Ensuring compliance with social responsibility, trade security, sustainability, health and safety, and product quality assurance are challenges faced by organizations of all sizes and types. As the global network of food suppliers, producers, distributors, and retailers grows, so too does the risk.

Pressure to monitor and protect the entire supply chain is constantly growing; there has never been more need for transparency in such endeavors. Clearly demonstrating to clients and fellow competitors alike that your supply chain management is sound in theory and in practice is key to performing well and avoiding disruption in production.

An effective and comprehensive supplier auditing program is the key to improving business and reducing risk by managing suppliers. Intelligence-based and proactive analysis is required to develop such a program, and ensuring coordination between different internal organization divisions will avoid redundancy to increase clarity in direction for your organization as a whole.

A vital way of preventing this type of situation is the regular use of PJRFSI Supplier Audits, using best industry practices and the experience of the PJRFSI team to review all aspects of every division of your organization from pest control and sanitation to foreign material control and record keeping.

With the flexibility that comes with years of experience, the PJRFSI team can tailor a supply audit for any client, offering a fully customized experience to gather the most comprehensive and accurate data possible.

Retailer-Specific Auditing

PJRFSI is pleased to be able to offer audits specifically for suppliers of some notable industry names. These opportunities include being able to offer approved audits for suppliers of Cracker Barrel and Whole Foods, as well as select farm audits without final field packing for Costco. We are also excited to be able to offer GRMA (Global Retailer & Manufacturer Alliance) audits for cannabis! Help get your products into the national market and ensure customer confidence with these approved audits.

If you are interested in a quote or would like to learn how we can customize your audit experience to best suit your company's needs, please contact us at (248) 519-2523 or email pjrfsi@pjrfsi.com. ♦

PJRFSI Receives First ANAB Accreditation for Cannabis Certification!

As cannabis legalization of differing levels spreads across the country state by state, PJRFSI is honored to have been recognized as the first ANAB-accredited certification body for Cannabis Certification! To learn more about our new accreditation and what it entails, click here: <https://www.pjrfsi.com/downloads/Cannabis-Accreditation.pdf>. ♦



SQF Edition 9

Edition 9 of SQF is currently under technical review! Draft Codes are anticipated to be completed by May 2020, with public comment accepted during July and August of 2020. The planned objectives of moving to Edition 9 include improving the architecture/structure of the Codes, meeting GFSI requirements (including BR8), and review of criteria and protocol, among others. While implementation of the new Edition is not anticipated until May of next year, stay tuned to PJRFSI's updates to know what to expect in the new revision! ♦

Virtual Audits

PJRFSI is excited to be able to offer virtual audits to clients as a part of the ever-evolving certification landscape.

Much like an onsite audit, a PJRFSI virtual audit allows one of our experienced auditors to engage with you and your team via the selected technology. Document review and employee interviews can be easily facilitated, as well as facility tours and presentation of findings. PJRFSI will work with you to identify which hardware and software elements will be most compatible with your organization and its specific audit plan.



To learn more about PJRFSI Virtual Audits, visit our website at www.pjrfsi.com/virtual-audits or call (248) 519-2523. ♦



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Upcoming FREE Webinars From PJRFSI

PJRFSI is hosting a series of free, educational webinars in the coming weeks and months. Check out what's coming up below! Go to our website www.pjrfsi.com now to register.

Thursday, June 18, 2020

"An Overview & Update on the Global Retailers & Manufacturers Alliance Programs"

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

"Supply Chain Management – What a Good Program Looks Like"



In the event you cannot attend a webinar at its scheduled time, we have the recordings available to download from our website at www.pjrfsi.com/webinars/past-webinars. We currently have the following webinars available for download:

- **5/29/2020**
Root Cause Analysis – Beyond the 5 Why's & SQF Remote Audits Solution
- **5/27/2020**
Food Safety Audits in the Times of Social Distancing
- **5/19/2020**
COVID 19 – FSSC Scheme Update and Next Steps

Keep checking back to our website for newly added webinar dates. ♦