
**Food safety management systems —
Requirements for any organization in
the food chain**

*Systèmes de management de la sécurité des denrées alimentaires —
Exigences pour tout organisme appartenant à la chaîne alimentaire*

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Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 17, *Management systems for food safety*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 22000:2005), which has been technically revised through the adoption of a revised clause sequence. It also incorporates the Technical Corrigendum ISO 22000:2005/Cor.1:2006.

The following annexes are included to provide the users of this document with further information:

- [Annex A](#): cross references between the CODEX HACCP principles and this document;
- [Annex B](#): cross reference between this document and ISO 22000:2005.

Introduction

0.1 General

The adoption of a food safety management system (FSMS) is a strategic decision for an organization that can help to improve its overall performance in food safety. The potential benefits to an organization of implementing a FSMS based on this document are:

- a) the ability to consistently provide safe foods and products and services that meet customer and applicable statutory and regulatory requirements;
- b) addressing risks associated with its objectives;
- c) the ability to demonstrate conformity to specified FSMS requirements.

This document employs the process approach (see 0.3), which incorporates the Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) cycle (see 0.3.2) and risk-based thinking (see 0.3.3).

This process approach enables an organization to plan its processes and their interactions.

The PDCA cycle enables an organization to ensure that its processes are adequately resourced and managed, and that opportunities for improvement are determined and acted on.

Risk-based thinking enables an organization to determine the factors that could cause its processes and its FSMS to deviate from the planned results, and to put in place controls to prevent or minimize adverse effects.

In this document, the following verbal forms are used:

- “shall” indicates a requirement;
- “should” indicates a recommendation;
- “may” indicates a permission;
- “can” indicates a possibility or a capability.

“NOTES” provide guidance in understanding or clarifying the requirements in this document.

0.2 FSMS principles

Food safety is related to the presence of food safety hazards at the time of consumption (intake by the consumer). Food safety hazards can occur at any stage of the food chain. Therefore, adequate control throughout the food chain is essential. Food safety is ensured through the combined efforts of all the parties in the food chain. This document specifies the requirements for a FSMS that combines the following generally recognized key elements:

- interactive communication;
- system management;
- prerequisite programmes;
- hazard analysis and critical control point (HACCP) principles.

In addition, this document is based on the principles that are common to ISO management system standards. The management principles are:

- customer focus;
- leadership;
- engagement of people;

- process approach;
- improvement;
- evidence-based decision making;
- relationship management.

0.3 Process approach

0.3.1 General

This document adopts a process approach when developing and implementing a FSMS and improving its effectiveness to enhance production of safe products and services while meeting applicable requirements. Understanding and managing interrelated processes as a system contributes to the organization's effectiveness and efficiency in achieving its intended results. The process approach involves the systematic definition and management of processes, and their interactions, so as to achieve the intended results in accordance with the food safety policy and strategic direction of the organization. Management of the processes and the system as a whole can be achieved using the PDCA cycle, with an overall focus on risk-based thinking aimed at taking advantage of opportunities and preventing undesirable results.

The recognition of the organization's role and position within the food chain is essential to ensure effective interactive communication throughout the food chain.

0.3.2 Plan-Do-Check-Act cycle

The PDCA cycle can be described briefly as follows:

- Plan: establish the objectives of the system and its processes, provide the resources needed to deliver the results, and identify and address risks and opportunities;
- Do: implement what was planned;
- Check: monitor and (where relevant) measure processes and the resulting products and services, analyse and evaluate information and data from monitoring, measuring and verification activities, and report the results;
- Act: take actions to improve performance, as necessary.

In this document, and as illustrated in [Figure 1](#), the process approach uses the concept of the PDCA cycle at two levels. The first covers the overall frame of the FSMS ([Clause 4](#) to [Clause 7](#) and [Clause 9](#) to [Clause 10](#)). The other level (operational planning and control) covers the operational processes within the food safety system as described in [Clause 8](#). Communication between the two levels is therefore essential.

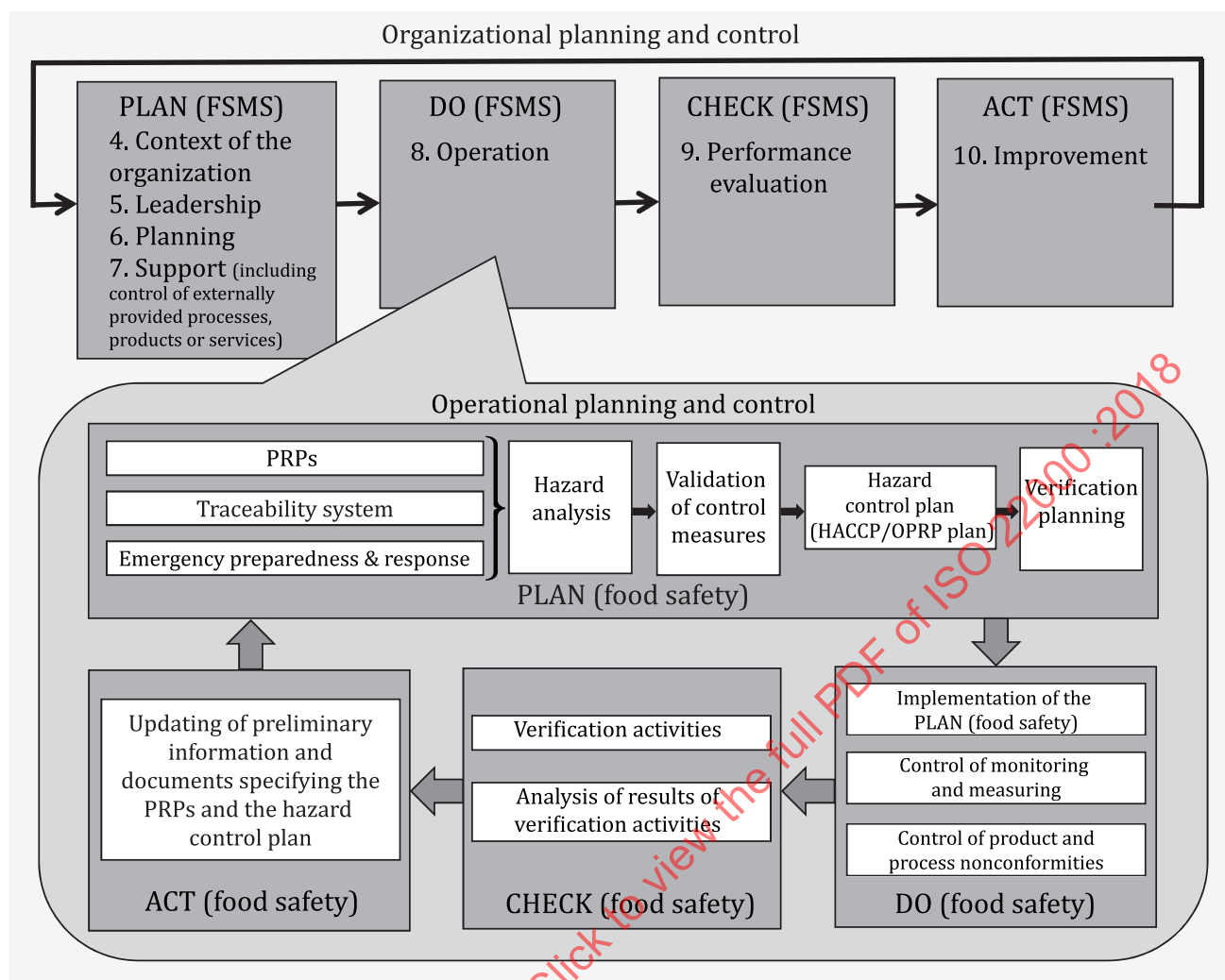


Figure 1 — Illustration of the Plan-Do-Check-Act cycle at the two levels

0.3.3 Risk-based thinking

0.3.3.1 General

Risk-based thinking is essential for achieving an effective FSMS. In this document, risk-based thinking is addressed on two levels, organizational (see 0.3.3.2) and operational (see 0.3.3.3), which is consistent with the process approach described in 0.3.2.

0.3.3.2 Organizational risk management

Risk is the effect of uncertainty, and any such uncertainty can have positive or negative effects. In the context of organizational risk management, a positive deviation arising from a risk can provide an opportunity, but not all positive effects of risk result in opportunities.

To conform to the requirements of this document, an organization plans and implements actions to address organizational risks ([Clause 6](#)). Addressing risks establishes a basis for increasing the effectiveness of the FSMS, achieving improved results and preventing negative effects.

0.3.3.3 Hazard analysis — Operational processes

The concept of risk-based thinking based on the HACCP principles at the operational level is implicit in this document.

The subsequent steps in HACCP can be considered as the necessary measures to prevent hazards or reduce hazards to acceptable levels to ensure food is safe at the time of consumption ([Clause 8](#)).

Decisions taken in the application of HACCP should be based on science, free from bias and documented. The documentation should include any key assumptions in the decision-making process.

0.4 Relationship with other management system standards

This document has been developed within the ISO high level structure (HLS). The objective of the HLS is to improve alignment between ISO management system standards. This document enables an organization to use the process approach, coupled with the PDCA cycle and risk-based thinking, to align or integrate its FSMS approach with the requirements of other management systems and supporting standards.

This document is the core principle and framework for FSMSs and sets out the specific FSMS requirements for organizations throughout the food chain. Other guidance related to food safety, specifications and/or requirements specific to food sectors can be used together with this framework.

In addition, ISO has developed a family of associated documents. These include documents for:

- prerequisite programmes (ISO/TS 22002 series) for specific sectors of the food chain;
- requirements for auditing and certification bodies;
- traceability.

ISO also provides guidance documents for organizations on how to implement this document and related standards. Information is available on the ISO website.

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Food safety management systems — Requirements for any organization in the food chain

1 Scope

This document specifies requirements for a food safety management system (FSMS) to enable an organization that is directly or indirectly involved in the food chain:

- a) to plan, implement, operate, maintain and update a FSMS providing products and services that are safe, in accordance with their intended use;
- b) to demonstrate compliance with applicable statutory and regulatory food safety requirements;
- c) to evaluate and assess mutually agreed customer food safety requirements and to demonstrate conformity with them;
- d) to effectively communicate food safety issues to interested parties within the food chain;
- e) to ensure that the organization conforms to its stated food safety policy;
- f) to demonstrate conformity to relevant interested parties;
- g) to seek certification or registration of its FSMS by an external organization, or make a self-assessment or self-declaration of conformity to this document.

All requirements of this document are generic and are intended to be applicable to all organizations in the food chain, regardless of size and complexity. Organizations that are directly or indirectly involved include, but are not limited to, feed producers, animal food producers, harvesters of wild plants and animals, farmers, producers of ingredients, food manufacturers, retailers, and organizations providing food services, catering services, cleaning and sanitation services, transportation, storage and distribution services, suppliers of equipment, cleaning and disinfectants, packaging materials and other food contact materials.

This document allows any organization, including small and/or less developed organizations (e.g. a small farm, a small packer-distributor, a small retail or food service outlet) to implement externally-developed elements in their FSMS.

Internal and/or external resources can be used to meet the requirements of this document.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1
acceptable level

level of a *food safety hazard* (3.22) not to be exceeded in the *end product* (3.15) provided by the *organization* (3.31)

3.2
action criterion
measurable or observable specification for the *monitoring* (3.27) of an *OPRP* (3.30)

Note 1 to entry: An action criterion is established to determine whether an OPRP remains in control, and distinguishes between what is acceptable (criterion met or achieved means the OPRP is operating as intended) and unacceptable (criterion not met nor achieved means the OPRP is not operating as intended).

3.3
audit
systematic, independent and documented *process* (3.36) for obtaining audit evidence and evaluating it objectively to determine the extent to which the audit criteria are fulfilled

Note 1 to entry: An audit can be an internal audit (first party) or an external audit (second party or third party), and it can be a combined audit (combining two or more disciplines).

Note 2 to entry: An internal audit is conducted by the organization itself, or by an external party on its behalf.

Note 3 to entry: "Audit evidence" and "audit criteria" are defined in ISO 19011.

Note 4 to entry: Relevant disciplines are, for example, food safety management, quality management or environmental management.

3.4
competence
ability to apply knowledge and skills to achieve intended results

3.5
conformity
fulfilment of a *requirement* (3.38)

3.6
contamination
introduction or occurrence of a contaminant including a *food safety hazard* (3.22) in a *product* (3.37) or processing environment

3.7
continual improvement
recurring activity to enhance *performance* (3.33)

3.8
control measure
action or activity that is essential to prevent a significant *food safety hazard* (3.22) or reduce it to an *acceptable level* (3.1)

Note 1 to entry: See also *significant food safety hazard* (3.40).

Note 2 to entry: Control measure(s) is (are) identified by hazard analysis.

3.9
correction
action to eliminate a detected *nonconformity* (3.28)

Note 1 to entry: A correction includes the handling of potentially unsafe products and can therefore be made in conjunction with a *corrective action* (3.10).

Note 2 to entry: A correction may be, for example, reprocessing, further processing and/or elimination of the adverse consequences of the nonconformity (such as disposal for other use or specific labelling).

3.10**corrective action**

action to eliminate the cause of a *nonconformity* (3.28) and to prevent recurrence

Note 1 to entry: There can be more than one cause for a nonconformity.

Note 2 to entry: Corrective action includes cause analysis.

3.11**critical control point****CCP**

step in the *process* (3.36) at which *control measure(s)* (3.8) is (are) applied to prevent or reduce a *significant food safety hazard* (3.40) to an acceptable level, and defined *critical limit(s)* (3.12) and *measurement* (3.26) enable the application of *corrections* (3.9)

3.12**critical limit**

measurable value which separates acceptability from unacceptability

Note 1 to entry: Critical limits are established to determine whether a *CCP* (3.11) remains in control. If a critical limit is exceeded or not met, the products affected are to be handled as potentially unsafe products.

[SOURCE: CAC/RCP 1-1969, modified — The definition has been modified and Note 1 to entry has been added.]

3.13**documented information**

information required to be controlled and maintained by an *organization* (3.31) and the medium on which it is contained

Note 1 to entry: Documented information can be in any format and media, and from any source.

Note 2 to entry: Documented information can refer to:

- the management system (3.25), including related processes (3.36);
- information created in order for the organization to operate (documentation);
- evidence of results achieved (records).

3.14**effectiveness**

extent to which planned activities are realized and planned results achieved

3.15**end product**

product (3.37) that will undergo no further processing or transformation by the *organization* (3.31)

Note 1 to entry: A product that undergoes further processing or transformation by another organization is an end product in the context of the first organization and a raw material or an ingredient in the context of the second organization.

3.16**feed**

single or multiple product(s), whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is (are) intended to be fed to food-producing animals

Note 1 to entry: Distinctions are made in this document between the terms *food* (3.18), *feed* (3.16) and *animal food* (3.19):

- food is intended for consumption by humans and animals, and includes feed and animal food;
- feed is intended to be fed to food-producing animals;

- animal food is intended to be fed to non-food-producing animals, such as pets.

[SOURCE: CAC/GL 81-2013, modified — The word “materials” has been changed to “products” and “directly” has been deleted.]

3.17

flow diagram

schematic and systematic presentation of the sequence and interactions of steps in the process

3.18

food

substance (ingredient), whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is intended for consumption, and includes drink, chewing gum and any substance which has been used in the manufacture, preparation or treatment of “food” but does not include cosmetics or tobacco or substances (ingredients) used only as drugs

Note 1 to entry: Distinctions are made in this document between the terms *food* (3.18), *feed* (3.16) and *animal food* (3.19):

- food is intended for consumption by humans and animals, and includes feed and animal food;
- feed is intended to be fed to food-producing animals;
- animal food is intended to be fed to non-food-producing animals, such as pets.

[SOURCE: CAC/GL 81-2013, modified — The word “human” has been deleted.]

3.19

animal food

single or multiple product(s), whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is (are) intended to be fed to non-food-producing animals

Note 1 to entry: Distinctions are made in this document between the terms *food* (3.18), *feed* (3.16) and *animal food* (3.19):

- food is intended for consumption by humans and animals, and includes feed and animal food;
- feed is intended to be fed to food-producing animals;
- animal food is intended to be fed to non-food-producing animals, such as pets.

[SOURCE: CAC/GL 81-2013, modified — The word “materials” has been changed to “products”, “non” has been added and “directly” has been deleted.]

3.20

food chain

sequence of the stages in the production, processing, distribution, storage and handling of a *food* (3.18) and its ingredients, from primary production to consumption

Note 1 to entry: This includes the production of *feed* (3.16) and *animal food* (3.19).

Note 2 to entry: The food chain also includes the production of materials intended to come into contact with food or raw materials.

Note 3 to entry: The food chain also includes service providers.

3.21

food safety

assurance that food will not cause an adverse health effect for the consumer when it is prepared and/or consumed in accordance with its intended use

Note 1 to entry: Food safety is related to the occurrence of *food safety hazards* (3.22) in *end products* (3.15) and does not include other health aspects related to, for example, malnutrition.

Note 2 to entry: It is not to be confused with the availability of, and access to, food ("food security").

Note 3 to entry: This includes feed and animal food.

[SOURCE: CAC/RCP 1-1969, modified — The word "harm" has been changed to "adverse health effect" and notes to entry have been added.]

3.22

food safety hazard

biological, chemical or physical agent in *food* (3.18) with the potential to cause an adverse health effect

Note 1 to entry: The term "hazard" is not to be confused with the term "*risk*" (3.39) which, in the context of food safety, means a function of the probability of an adverse health effect (e.g. becoming diseased) and the severity of that effect (e.g. death, hospitalization) when exposed to a specified hazard.

Note 2 to entry: Food safety hazards include allergens and radiological substances.

Note 3 to entry: In the context of feed and feed ingredients, relevant food safety hazards are those that can be present in and/or on feed and feed ingredients and that can through animal consumption of feed be transferred to food and can thus have the potential to cause an adverse health effect for the animal or the human consumer. In the context of operations other than those directly handling feed and food (e.g. producers of packaging materials, disinfectants), relevant food safety hazards are those hazards that can be directly or indirectly transferred to food when used as intended (see 8.5.1.4).

Note 4 to entry: In the context of animal food, relevant food safety hazards are those that are hazardous to the animal species for which the food is intended.

[SOURCE: CAC/RCP 1-1969, modified — The phrase "or condition of" has been deleted from the definition and notes to entry have been added.]

3.23

interested party (preferred term)

stakeholder (admitted term)

person or *organization* (3.31) that can affect, be affected by, or perceive itself to be affected by a decision or activity

3.24

lot

defined quantity of a *product* (3.37) produced and/or processed and/or packaged essentially under the same conditions

Note 1 to entry: The lot is determined by parameters established beforehand by the organization and may be described by other terms, e.g. batch.

Note 2 to entry: The lot may be reduced to a single unit of product.

[SOURCE: CODEX STAN 1, modified — Reference to "and/or processed and/or packaged" has been included in the definition and notes to entry have been added.]

3.25

management system

set of interrelated or interacting elements of an *organization* (3.31) to establish *policies* (3.34) and *objectives* (3.29) and *processes* (3.36) to achieve those objectives

Note 1 to entry: A management system can address a single discipline or several disciplines.

Note 2 to entry: The system elements include the organization's structure, roles and responsibilities, planning and operation.

Note 3 to entry: The scope of a management system may include the whole of the organization, specific and identified functions of the organization, specific and identified sections of the organization, or one or more functions across a group of organizations.

Note 4 to entry: Relevant disciplines are, for example, a quality management system or an environmental management system.

3.26

measurement

process (3.36) to determine a value

3.27

monitoring

determining the status of a system, a *process* (3.36) or an activity

Note 1 to entry: To determine the status, there may be a need to check, supervise or critically observe.

Note 2 to entry: In the context of food safety, monitoring is conducting a planned sequence of observations or measurements to assess whether a process is operating as intended.

Note 3 to entry: Distinctions are made in this document between the terms *validation* (3.44), *monitoring* (3.27) and *verification* (3.45):

- validation is applied prior to an activity and provides information about the capability to deliver intended results;
- monitoring is applied during an activity and provides information for action within a specified time frame;
- verification is applied after an activity and provides information for confirmation of conformity.

3.28

nonconformity

non-fulfilment of a *requirement* (3.38)

3.29

objective

result to be achieved

Note 1 to entry: An objective can be strategic, tactical, or operational.

Note 2 to entry: Objectives can relate to different disciplines (such as financial, health and safety, and environmental goals) and can apply at different levels (such as strategic, organization-wide, project, product and *process* (3.36)).

Note 3 to entry: An objective can be expressed in other ways, e.g. as an intended outcome, a purpose, an operational criterion, as a FSMS objective, or by the use of other words with similar meaning (e.g. aim, goal, or target).

Note 4 to entry: In the context of FSMS, objectives are set by the organization, consistent with the food safety policy, to achieve specific results.

3.30

operational prerequisite programme OPRP

control measure (3.8) or combination of control measures applied to prevent or reduce a *significant food safety hazard* (3.40) to an *acceptable level* (3.1), and where *action criterion* (3.2) and *measurement* (3.26) or observation enable effective control of the *process* (3.36) and/or *product* (3.37)

3.31

organization

person or group of people that has its own functions with responsibilities, authorities and relationships to achieve its *objectives* (3.29)

Note 1 to entry: The concept of organization includes, but is not limited to sole-trader, company, corporation, firm, enterprise, authority, partnership, charity or institution, or part or combination thereof, whether incorporated or not, public or private.

3.32**outsourcing**, verb

make an arrangement where an external *organization* (3.31) performs part of an organization's function or *process* (3.36)

Note 1 to entry: An external organization is outside the scope of the *management system* (3.25), although the outsourced function or process is within the scope.

3.33**performance**

measurable result

Note 1 to entry: Performance can relate either to quantitative or qualitative findings.

Note 2 to entry: Performance can relate to the management of activities, *processes* (3.36), *products* (3.37) (including services), systems or *organizations* (3.31).

3.34**policy**

intentions and direction of an *organization* (3.31) as formally expressed by its *top management* (3.41)

3.35**prerequisite programme****PRP**

basic conditions and activities that are necessary within the *organization* (3.31) and throughout the *food chain* (3.20) to maintain food safety

Note 1 to entry: The PRPs needed depend on the segment of the food chain in which the organization operates and the type of organization. Examples of equivalent terms are: good agricultural practice (GAP), good veterinary practice (GVP), good manufacturing practice (GMP), good hygiene practice (GHP), good production practice (GPP), good distribution practice (GDP) and good trading practice (GTP).

3.36**process**

set of interrelated or interacting activities which transforms inputs to outputs

3.37**product**

output that is a result of a *process* (3.36)

Note 1 to entry: A product can be a service.

3.38**requirement**

need or expectation that is stated, generally implied or obligatory

Note 1 to entry: "Generally implied" means that it is custom or common practice for the organization and interested parties that the need or expectation under consideration is implied.

Note 2 to entry: A specified requirement is one that is stated, for example in documented information.

3.39**risk**

effect of uncertainty

Note 1 to entry: An effect is a deviation from the expected – positive or negative.

Note 2 to entry: Uncertainty is the state, even partial, of deficiency of information related to, understanding or knowledge of, an event, its consequence, or likelihood.

Note 3 to entry: Risk is often characterized by reference to potential "events" (as defined in ISO Guide 73:2009, 3.5.1.3) and "consequences" (as defined in ISO Guide 73:2009, 3.6.1.3), or a combination of these.

Note 4 to entry: Risk is often expressed in terms of a combination of the consequences of an event (including changes in circumstances) and the associated “likelihood” (as defined in ISO Guide 73:2009, 3.6.1.1) of occurrence.

Note 5 to entry: Food safety risk is a function of the probability of an adverse health effect and the severity of that effect, consequential to (a) hazard(s) in *food* (3.18), as specified in the Codex Procedural Manual^[1].

3.40

significant food safety hazard

food safety hazard (3.22), identified through the hazard assessment, which needs to be controlled by *control measures* (3.8)

3.41

top management

person or group of people who directs and controls an *organization* (3.31) at the highest level

Note 1 to entry: Top management has the power to delegate authority and provide resources within the organization.

Note 2 to entry: If the scope of the *management system* (3.25) covers only part of an organization, then top management refers to those who direct and control that part of the organization.

3.42

traceability

ability to follow the history, application, movement and location of an object through specified stage(s) of production, processing and distribution

Note 1 to entry: Movement can relate to the origin of the materials, processing history or distribution of the *food* (3.18).

Note 2 to entry: An object can be a *product* (3.37), a material, a unit, equipment, a service, etc.

[SOURCE: CAC/GL 60-2006, modified — Notes to entry have been added.]

3.43

update

immediate and/or planned activity to ensure application of the most recent information

Note 1 to entry: Update is different from the terms “maintain” and “retain”:

- “maintain” is to keep something on-going/to keep in good condition;
- “retain” is to keep something that is retrievable.

3.44

validation

<food safety> obtaining evidence that a *control measure* (3.8) (or combination of control measures) will be capable of effectively controlling the *significant food safety hazard* (3.40)

Note 1 to entry: Validation is performed at the time a control measure combination is designed, or whenever changes are made to the implemented control measures.

Note 2 to entry: Distinctions are made in this document between the terms *validation* (3.44), *monitoring* (3.27) and *verification* (3.45):

- validation is applied prior to an activity and provides information about the capability to deliver intended results;
- monitoring is applied during an activity and provides information for action within a specified time frame;
- verification is applied after an activity and provides information for confirmation of conformity.

3.45**verification**

confirmation, through the provision of objective evidence, that specified *requirements* (3.38) have been fulfilled

Note 1 to entry: Distinctions are made in this document between the terms *validation* (3.44), *monitoring* (3.27) and *verification* (3.45):

- validation is applied prior to an activity and provides information about the capability to deliver intended results;
- monitoring is applied during an activity and provides information for action within a specified time frame;
- verification is applied after an activity and provides information for confirmation of conformity.

4 Context of the organization**4.1 Understanding the organization and its context**

The organization shall determine external and internal issues that are relevant to its purpose and that affect its ability to achieve the intended result(s) of its FSMS.

The organization shall identify, review and update information related to these external and internal issues.

NOTE 1 Issues can include positive and negative factors or conditions for consideration.

NOTE 2 Understanding the context can be facilitated by considering external and internal issues, including, but not limited to, legal, technological, competitive, market, cultural, social and economic environments, cybersecurity and food fraud, food defence and intentional contamination, knowledge and performance of the organization, whether international, national, regional or local.

4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties

To ensure that the organization has the ability to consistently provide products and services that meet applicable statutory, regulatory and customer requirements with regard to food safety, the organization shall determine:

- a) the interested parties that are relevant to the FSMS;
- b) the relevant requirements of the interested parties of the FSMS.

The organization shall identify, review and update information related to the interested parties and their requirements.

4.3 Determining the scope of the food safety management system

The organization shall determine the boundaries and applicability of the FSMS to establish its scope. The scope shall specify the products and services, processes and production site(s) that are included in the FSMS. The scope shall include the activities, processes, products or services that can have an influence on the food safety of its end products.

When determining this scope, the organization shall consider:

- a) the external and internal issues referred to in 4.1;
- b) the requirements referred to in 4.2.

The scope shall be available and maintained as documented information.

4.4 Food safety management system

The organization shall establish, implement, maintain, update and continually improve a FSMS, including the processes needed and their interactions, in accordance with the requirements of this document.

5 Leadership

5.1 Leadership and commitment

Top management shall demonstrate leadership and commitment with respect to the FSMS by:

- a) ensuring that the food safety policy and the objectives of the FSMS are established and are compatible with the strategic direction of the organization;
- b) ensuring the integration of the FSMS requirements into the organization's business processes;
- c) ensuring that the resources needed for the FSMS are available;
- d) communicating the importance of effective food safety management and conforming to the FSMS requirements, applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, and mutually agreed customer requirements related to food safety;
- e) ensuring that the FSMS is evaluated and maintained to achieve its intended result(s) (see [4.1](#));
- f) directing and supporting persons to contribute to the effectiveness of the FSMS;
- g) promoting continual improvement;
- h) supporting other relevant management roles to demonstrate their leadership as it applies to their areas of responsibility.

NOTE Reference to "business" in this document can be interpreted broadly to mean those activities that are core to the purposes of the organization's existence.

5.2 Policy

5.2.1 Establishing the food safety policy

Top management shall establish, implement and maintain a food safety policy that:

- a) is appropriate to the purpose and context of the organization;
- b) provides a framework for setting and reviewing the objectives of the FSMS;
- c) includes a commitment to satisfy applicable food safety requirements, including statutory and regulatory requirements and mutually agreed customer requirements related to food safety;
- d) addresses internal and external communication;
- e) includes a commitment to continual improvement of the FSMS;
- f) addresses the need to ensure competencies related to food safety.

5.2.2 Communicating the food safety policy

The food safety policy shall:

- a) be available and maintained as documented information;
- b) be communicated, understood and applied at all levels within the organization;

- c) be available to relevant interested parties, as appropriate.

5.3 Organizational roles, responsibilities and authorities

5.3.1 Top management shall ensure that the responsibilities and authorities for relevant roles are assigned, communicated and understood within the organization.

Top management shall assign the responsibility and authority for:

- a) ensuring that the FSMS conforms to the requirements of this document;
- b) reporting on the performance of the FSMS to top management;
- c) appointing the food safety team and the food safety team leader;
- d) designating persons with defined responsibility and authority to initiate and document action(s).

5.3.2 The food safety team leader shall be responsible for:

- a) ensuring the FSMS is established, implemented, maintained and updated;
- b) managing and organizing the work of the food safety team;
- c) ensuring relevant training and competencies for the food safety team (see [7.2](#));
- d) reporting to top management on the effectiveness and suitability of the FSMS.

5.3.3 All persons shall have the responsibility to report problem(s) with regards to the FSMS to identified person(s).

6 Planning

6.1 Actions to address risks and opportunities

6.1.1 When planning for the FSMS, the organization shall consider the issues referred to in [4.1](#) and the requirements referred to in [4.2](#) and [4.3](#) and determine the risks and opportunities that need to be addressed to:

- a) give assurance that the FSMS can achieve its intended result(s);
- b) enhance desirable effects;
- c) prevent, or reduce, undesired effects;
- d) achieve continual improvement.

NOTE In the context of this document, the concept of risks and opportunities is limited to events and their consequences relating to the performance and effectiveness of the FSMS. Public authorities are responsible for addressing public health risks. Organizations are required to manage food safety hazards (see [3.22](#)) and the requirements related to this process that are laid down in [Clause 8](#).

6.1.2 The organization shall plan:

- a) actions to address these risks and opportunities;
- b) how to:
 - 1) integrate and implement the actions into its FSMS processes;
 - 2) evaluate the effectiveness of these actions.

6.1.3 The actions taken by the organization to address risks and opportunities shall be proportionate to:

- a) the impact on food safety requirements;
- b) the conformity of food products and services to customers;
- c) requirements of interested parties in the food chain.

NOTE 1 Actions to address risks and opportunities can include: avoiding risk, taking risk in order to pursue an opportunity, eliminating the risk source, changing the likelihood or consequences, sharing the risk, or accepting the presence of risk by informed decision.

NOTE 2 Opportunities can lead to the adoption of new practices (modification of products or processes), using new technology and other desirable and viable possibilities to address the food safety needs of the organization or its customers.

6.2 Objectives of the food safety management system and planning to achieve them

6.2.1 The organization shall establish objectives for the FSMS at relevant functions and levels.

The objectives of the FSMS shall:

- a) be consistent with the food safety policy;
- b) be measurable (if practicable);
- c) take into account applicable food safety requirements, including statutory, regulatory and customer requirements;
- d) be monitored and verified;
- e) be communicated;
- f) be maintained and updated as appropriate.

The organization shall retain documented information on the objectives for the FSMS.

6.2.2 When planning how to achieve its objectives for the FSMS, the organization shall determine:

- a) what will be done;
- b) what resources will be required;
- c) who will be responsible;
- d) when it will be completed;
- e) how the results will be evaluated.

6.3 Planning of changes

When the organization determines the need for changes to the FSMS, including personnel changes, the changes shall be carried out and communicated in a planned manner.

The organization shall consider:

- a) the purpose of the changes and their potential consequences;
- b) the continued integrity of the FSMS;
- c) the availability of resources to effectively implement the changes;
- d) the allocation or re-allocation of responsibilities and authorities.

7 Support

7.1 Resources

7.1.1 General

The organization shall determine and provide the resources needed for the establishment, implementation, maintenance, update and continual improvement of the FSMS.

The organization shall consider:

- a) the capability of, and any constraints on, existing internal resources;
- b) the need for external resources.

7.1.2 People

The organization shall ensure that persons necessary to operate and maintain an effective FSMS are competent (see [7.2](#)).

Where the assistance of external experts is used for the development, implementation, operation or assessment of the FSMS, evidence of agreement or contracts defining the competency, responsibility and authority of external experts shall be retained as documented information.

7.1.3 Infrastructure

The organization shall provide the resources for the determination, establishment and maintenance of the infrastructure necessary to achieve conformity with the requirements of the FSMS.

NOTE Infrastructure can include:

- land, vessels, buildings and associated utilities;
- equipment, including hardware and software;
- transportation;
- information and communication technology.

7.1.4 Work environment

The organization shall determine, provide and maintain the resources for the establishment, management and maintenance of the work environment necessary to achieve conformity with the requirements of the FSMS.

NOTE A suitable environment can be a combination of human and physical factors such as:

- a) social (e.g. non-discriminatory, calm, non-confrontational);
- b) psychological (e.g. stress-reducing, burnout prevention, emotionally protective);
- c) physical (e.g. temperature, heat, humidity, light, air flow, hygiene, noise).

These factors can differ substantially depending on the products and services provided.

7.1.5 Externally developed elements of the food safety management system

When an organization establishes, maintains, updates and continually improves its FSMS by using externally developed elements of a FSMS, including PRPs, the hazard analysis and the hazard control plan (see 8.5.4), the organization shall ensure that the provided elements are:

- a) developed in conformance with requirements of this document;
- b) applicable to the sites, processes and products of the organization;
- c) specifically adapted to the processes and products of the organization by the food safety team;
- d) implemented, maintained and updated as required by this document;
- e) retained as documented information.

7.1.6 Control of externally provided processes, products or services

The organization shall:

- a) establish and apply criteria for the evaluation, selection, monitoring of performance and re-evaluation of external providers of processes, products and/or services;
- b) ensure adequate communication of requirements to the external provider(s);
- c) ensure that externally provided processes, products or services do not adversely affect the organization's ability to consistently meet the requirements of the FSMS;
- d) retain documented information of these activities and any necessary actions as a result of the evaluations and re-evaluations.

7.2 Competence

The organization shall:

- a) determine the necessary competence of person(s), including external providers, doing work under its control that affects its food safety performance and effectiveness of the FSMS;
- b) ensure that these persons, including the food safety team and those responsible for the operation of the hazard control plan, are competent on the basis of appropriate education, training and/or experience;
- c) ensure that the food safety team has a combination of multi-disciplinary knowledge and experience in developing and implementing the FSMS (including, but not limited to, the organization's products, processes, equipment and food safety hazards within the scope of the FSMS);
- d) where applicable, take actions to acquire the necessary competence, and evaluate the effectiveness of the actions taken;
- e) retain appropriate documented information as evidence of competence.

NOTE Applicable actions can include, for example, the provision of training to, the mentoring of, or the re-assignment of currently employed persons; or the hiring or contracting of competent persons.

7.3 Awareness

The organization shall ensure that all relevant persons doing work under the organization's control shall be aware of:

- a) the food safety policy;
- b) the objectives of the FSMS relevant to their task(s);

- c) their individual contribution to the effectiveness of the FSMS, including the benefits of improved food safety performance;
- d) the implications of not conforming with the FSMS requirements.

7.4 Communication

7.4.1 General

The organization shall determine the internal and external communications relevant to the FSMS, including:

- a) on what it will communicate;
- b) when to communicate;
- c) with whom to communicate;
- d) how to communicate;
- e) who communicates.

The organization shall ensure that the requirement for effective communication is understood by all persons whose activities have an impact on food safety.

7.4.2 External communication

The organization shall ensure that sufficient information is communicated externally and is available for interested parties of the food chain.

The organization shall establish, implement and maintain effective communications with:

- a) external providers and contractors;
- b) customers and/or consumers, in relation to:
 - 1) product information related to food safety, to enable the handling, display, storage, preparation, distribution and use of the product within the food chain or by the consumer;
 - 2) identified food safety hazards that need to be controlled by other organizations in the food chain and/or by consumers;
 - 3) contractual arrangements, enquiries and orders, including their amendments;
 - 4) customer and/or consumer feedback, including complaints;
- c) statutory and regulatory authorities;
- d) other organizations that have an impact on, or will be affected by, the effectiveness or updating of the FSMS.

Designated persons shall have defined responsibility and authority for the external communication of any information concerning food safety. Where relevant, information obtained through external communication shall be included as input for management review (see [9.3](#)) and for updating the FSMS (see [4.4](#) and [10.3](#)).

Evidence of external communication shall be retained as documented information.

7.4.3 Internal communication

The organization shall establish, implement and maintain an effective system for communicating issues having an impact on food safety.

To maintain the effectiveness of the FSMS, the organization shall ensure that the food safety team is informed in a timely manner of changes in the following:

- a) products or new products;
- b) raw materials, ingredients and services;
- c) production systems and equipment;
- d) production premises, location of equipment and surrounding environment;
- e) cleaning and sanitation programmes;
- f) packaging, storage and distribution systems;
- g) competencies and/or allocation of responsibilities and authorizations;
- h) applicable statutory and regulatory requirements;
- i) knowledge regarding food safety hazards and control measures;
- j) customer, sector and other requirements that the organization observes;
- k) relevant enquiries and communications from external interested parties;
- l) complaints and alerts indicating food safety hazards associated with the end product;
- m) other conditions that have an impact on food safety.

The food safety team shall ensure that this information is included when updating the FSMS (see [4.4](#) and [10.3](#)).

Top management shall ensure that relevant information is included as input to the management review (see [9.3](#)).

7.5 Documented information

7.5.1 General

The organization's FSMS shall include:

- a) documented information required by this document;
- b) documented information determined by the organization as being necessary for the effectiveness of the FSMS;
- c) documented information and food safety requirements required by statutory, regulatory authorities and customers.

NOTE The extent of documented information for a FSMS can differ from one organization to another due to:

- the size of organization and its type of activities, processes, products and services;
- the complexity of processes and their interactions;
- the competence of persons.

7.5.2 Creating and updating

When creating and updating documented information, the organization shall ensure appropriate:

- a) identification and description (e.g. a title, date, author, or reference number);
- b) format (e.g. language, software version, graphics) and media (e.g. paper, electronic);

- c) review and approval for suitability and adequacy.

7.5.3 Control of documented information

7.5.3.1 Documented information required by the FSMS and by this document shall be controlled to ensure:

- a) it is available and suitable for use, where and when it is needed;
- b) it is adequately protected (e.g. from loss of confidentiality, improper use, or loss of integrity).

7.5.3.2 For the control of documented information, the organization shall address the following activities, as applicable:

- a) distribution, access, retrieval and use;
- b) storage and preservation, including preservation of legibility;
- c) control of changes (e.g. version control);
- d) retention and disposition.

Documented information of external origin determined by the organization to be necessary for the planning and operation of the FSMS shall be identified, as appropriate, and controlled.

Documented information retained as evidence of conformity shall be protected from unintended alterations.

NOTE Access can imply a decision regarding the permission to view the documented information only, or the permission and authority to view and change the documented information.

8 Operation

8.1 Operational planning and control

The organization shall plan, implement, control, maintain and update the processes needed to meet requirements for the realization of safe products, and to implement the actions determined in [6.1](#), by:

- a) establishing criteria for the processes;
- b) implementing control of the processes in accordance with the criteria;
- c) keeping documented information to the extent necessary to have the confidence to demonstrate that the processes have been carried out as planned.

The organization shall control planned changes and review the consequences of unintended changes, taking action to mitigate any adverse effects, as necessary.

The organization shall ensure that outsourced processes are controlled (see [7.1.6](#)).

8.2 Prerequisite programmes (PRPs)

8.2.1 The organization shall establish, implement, maintain and update PRP(s) to facilitate the prevention and/or reduction of contaminants (including food safety hazards) in the products, product processing and work environment.

8.2.2 The PRP(s) shall be:

- a) appropriate to the organization and its context with regard to food safety;

- b) appropriate to the size and type of the operation and the nature of the products being manufactured and/or handled;
- c) implemented across the entire production system, either as programmes applicable in general or as programmes applicable to a particular product or process;
- d) approved by the food safety team.

8.2.3 When selecting and/or establishing PRP(s), the organization shall ensure that applicable statutory, regulatory and mutually agreed customer requirements are identified. The organization should consider:

- a) the applicable part of the ISO/TS 22002 series;
- b) applicable standards, codes of practice and guidelines.

8.2.4 When establishing PRP(s) the organization shall consider:

- a) construction, lay-out of buildings and associated utilities;
- b) lay-out of premises, including zoning, workspace and employee facilities;
- c) supplies of air, water, energy and other utilities;
- d) pest control, waste and sewage disposal and supporting services;
- e) the suitability of equipment and its accessibility for cleaning and maintenance;
- f) supplier approval and assurance processes (e.g. raw materials, ingredients, chemicals and packaging);
- g) reception of incoming materials, storage, dispatch, transportation and handling of products;
- h) measures for the prevention of cross contamination;
- i) cleaning and disinfecting;
- j) personal hygiene;
- k) product information/consumer awareness;
- l) others, as appropriate.

Documented information shall specify the selection, establishment, applicable monitoring and verification of the PRPs).

8.3 Traceability system

The traceability system shall be able to uniquely identify incoming material from the suppliers and the first stage of the distribution route of the end product. When establishing and implementing the traceability system, the following shall be considered as a minimum:

- a) relation of lots of received materials, ingredients and intermediate products to the end products;
- b) reworking of materials/products;
- c) distribution of the end product.

The organization shall ensure that applicable statutory, regulatory and customer requirements are identified.

Documented information as evidence of the traceability system shall be retained for a defined period to include, as a minimum, the shelf life of the product. The organization shall verify and test the effectiveness of the traceability system.

NOTE Where appropriate, the verification of the system is expected to include the reconciliation of quantities of end products with the quantity of ingredients as evidence of effectiveness.

8.4 Emergency preparedness and response

8.4.1 General

Top management shall ensure procedures are in place to respond to potential emergency situations or incidents that can have an impact on food safety which are relevant to the role of the organization in the food chain.

Documented information shall be established and maintained to manage these situations and incidents.

8.4.2 Handling of emergencies and incidents

The organization shall:

- a) respond to actual emergency situations and incidents by:
 - 1) ensuring applicable statutory and regulatory requirements are identified;
 - 2) communicating internally;
 - 3) communicating externally (e.g. suppliers, customers, appropriate authorities, media);
- b) take action to reduce the consequences of the emergency situation, appropriate to the magnitude of the emergency or incident and the potential food safety impact;
- c) periodically test procedures where practical;
- d) review and, where necessary, update the documented information after the occurrence of any incident, emergency situation or tests.

NOTE Examples of emergency situations that can affect food safety and/or production are natural disasters, environmental accidents, bioterrorism, workplace accidents, public health emergencies and other accidents, e.g. interruption of essential services such as water, electricity or refrigeration supply.

8.5 Hazard control

8.5.1 Preliminary steps to enable hazard analysis

8.5.1.1 General

To carry out the hazard analysis, preliminary documented information shall be collected, maintained and updated by the food safety team. This shall include, but not be limited to:

- a) applicable statutory, regulatory and customer requirements;
- b) the organization's products, processes and equipment;
- c) food safety hazards relevant to the FSMS.

8.5.1.2 Characteristics of raw materials, ingredients and product contact materials

The organization shall ensure that all applicable statutory and regulatory food safety requirements are identified for all raw materials, ingredients and product contact materials.

The organization shall maintain documented information concerning all raw materials, ingredients and product contact materials to the extent needed to conduct the hazard analysis (see [8.5.2](#)), including the following, as appropriate:

- a) biological, chemical and physical characteristics;
- b) composition of formulated ingredients, including additives and processing aids;
- c) source (e.g. animal, mineral or vegetable);
- d) place of origin (provenance);
- e) method of production;
- f) method of packaging and delivery;
- g) storage conditions and shelf life;
- h) preparation and/or handling before use or processing;
- i) acceptance criteria related to food safety or specifications of purchased materials and ingredients appropriate to their intended use.

8.5.1.3 Characteristics of end products

The organization shall ensure that all applicable statutory and regulatory food safety requirements are identified for all the end products intended to be produced.

The organization shall maintain documented information concerning the characteristics of end products to the extent needed to conduct the hazard analysis (see [8.5.2](#)), including information on the following, as appropriate:

- a) product name or similar identification;
- b) composition;
- c) biological, chemical and physical characteristics relevant for food safety;
- d) intended shelf life and storage conditions;
- e) packaging;
- f) labelling relating to food safety and/or instructions for handling, preparation and intended use;
- g) method(s) of distribution and delivery.

8.5.1.4 Intended use

The intended use, including reasonably expected handling of the end product and any unintended use but reasonably expected mishandling and misuse of the end product, shall be considered and shall be maintained as documented information to the extent needed to conduct the hazard analysis (see [8.5.2](#)).

Where appropriate, groups of consumers/users shall be identified for each product.

Groups of consumers/users known to be especially vulnerable to specific food safety hazards shall be identified.

8.5.1.5 Flow diagrams and description of processes

8.5.1.5.1 Preparation of the flow diagrams

The food safety team shall establish, maintain and update flow diagrams as documented information for the products or product categories and the processes covered by the FSMS.

Flow diagrams provide a graphic representation of the process. Flow diagrams shall be used when conducting the hazard analysis as a basis for evaluating the possible occurrence, increase, decrease or introduction of food safety hazards.

Flow diagrams shall be clear, accurate and sufficiently detailed to the extent needed to conduct the hazard analysis. Flow diagrams shall, as appropriate, include the following:

- a) the sequence and interaction of the steps in the operation;
- b) any outsourced processes;
- c) where raw materials, ingredients, processing aids, packaging materials, utilities and intermediate products enter the flow;
- d) where reworking and recycling take place;
- e) where end products, intermediate products, by-products and waste are released or removed.

8.5.1.5.2 On-site confirmation of flow diagrams

The food safety team shall confirm on-site the accuracy of the flow diagrams, update the flow diagrams where appropriate and retain as documented information.

8.5.1.5.3 Description of processes and process environment

The food safety team shall describe, to the extent needed to conduct the hazard analysis:

- a) the layout of premises, including food and non-food handling areas;
- b) processing equipment and contact materials, processing aids and flow of materials;
- c) existing PRPs, process parameters, control measures (if any) and/or the strictness with which they are applied, or procedures that can influence food safety;
- d) external requirements (e.g. from statutory and regulatory authorities or customers) that can impact the choice and the strictness of the control measures.

The variations resulting from expected seasonal changes or shift patterns shall be included as appropriate.

The descriptions shall be updated as appropriate and maintained as documented information.

8.5.2 Hazard analysis

8.5.2.1 General

The food safety team shall conduct a hazard analysis, based on the preliminary information, to determine the hazards that need to be controlled. The degree of control shall ensure food safety and, where appropriate, a combination of control measures shall be used.

8.5.2.2 Hazard identification and determination of acceptable levels

8.5.2.2.1 The organization shall identify and document all food safety hazards that are reasonably expected to occur in relation to the type of product, type of process and process environment.

The identification shall be based on:

- a) the preliminary information and data collected in accordance with [8.5.1](#);
- b) experience;
- c) internal and external information including, to the extent possible, epidemiological, scientific and other historical data;
- d) information from the food chain on food safety hazards related to the safety of the end products, intermediate products and the food at the time of consumption;
- e) statutory, regulatory and customer requirements.

NOTE 1 Experience can include information from staff and external experts who are familiar with the product and/or processes in other facilities.

NOTE 2 Statutory and regulatory requirements can include food safety objectives (FSOs). The Codex Alimentarius Commission defines FSOs as “The maximum frequency and/or concentration of a hazard in a food at the time of consumption that provides or contributes to the appropriate level of protection (ALOP)”.

Hazards should be considered in sufficient detail to enable hazard assessment and the selection of appropriate control measures.

8.5.2.2.2 The organization shall identify step(s) (e.g. receiving raw materials, processing, distribution and delivery) at which each food safety hazard can be present, be introduced, increase or persist.

When identifying hazards, the organization shall consider:

- a) the stages preceding and following in the food chain;
- b) all steps in the flow diagram;
- c) the process equipment, utilities/services, process environment and persons.

8.5.2.2.3 The organization shall determine the acceptable level in the end product of each food safety hazard identified, whenever possible.

When determining acceptable levels, the organization shall:

- a) ensure that applicable statutory, regulatory and customer requirements are identified;
- b) consider the intended use of end products;
- c) consider any other relevant information.

The organization shall maintain documented information concerning the determination of acceptable levels and the justification for the acceptable levels.

8.5.2.3 Hazard assessment

The organization shall conduct, for each identified food safety hazard, a hazard assessment to determine whether its prevention or reduction to an acceptable level is essential.

The organization shall evaluate each food safety hazard with regard to:

- a) the likelihood of its occurrence in the end product prior to application of control measures;

- b) the severity of its adverse health effects in relation to the intended use (see [8.5.1.4](#)).

The organization shall identify any significant food safety hazards.

The methodology used shall be described, and the result of the hazard assessment shall be maintained as documented information.

8.5.2.4 Selection and categorization of control measure(s)

8.5.2.4.1 Based on the hazard assessment, the organization shall select an appropriate control measure or combination of control measures that will be capable of preventing or reducing the identified significant food safety hazards to defined acceptable levels.

The organization shall categorize the selected identified control measure(s) to be managed as OPRP(s) (see [3.30](#)) or at CCPs (see [3.11](#)).

The categorization shall be carried out using a systematic approach. For each of the control measures selected, there shall be an assessment of the following:

- a) the likelihood of failure of its functioning;
- b) the severity of the consequence in the case of failure of its functioning; this assessment shall include:
 - 1) the effect on identified significant food safety hazards;
 - 2) the location in relation to other control measure(s);
 - 3) whether it is specifically established and applied to reduce the hazards to an acceptable level;
 - 4) whether it is a single measure or is part of combination of control measure(s).

8.5.2.4.2 In addition, for each control measure, the systematic approach shall include an assessment of the feasibility of:

- a) establishing measurable critical limits and/or measurable/observable action criteria;
- b) monitoring to detect any failure to remain within critical limit and/or measurable/observable action criteria;
- c) applying timely corrections in case of failure.

The decision-making process and results of the selection and categorization of the control measures shall be maintained as documented information.

External requirements (e.g. statutory, regulatory and customer requirements) that can impact the choice and the strictness of the control measures shall also be maintained as documented information.

8.5.3 Validation of control measure(s) and combinations of control measures

The food safety team shall validate that the selected control measures are capable of achieving the intended control of the significant food safety hazard(s). This validation shall be done prior to implementation of control measure(s) and combinations of control measures to be included in the hazard control plan (see [8.5.4](#)) and after any change therein (see [7.4.2](#), [7.4.3](#), [10.2](#) and [10.3](#)).

When the result of validation shows that the control measures(s) is (are) not capable of achieving the intended control, the food safety team shall modify and re-assess the control measure(s) and/or combination(s) of control measure(s).

The food safety team shall maintain the validation methodology and evidence of capability of the control measure(s) to achieve the intended control as documented information.

NOTE Modification can include changes in control measure(s) (i.e. process parameters, rigour and/or their combination) and/or change(s) in the manufacturing technologies for raw materials, end product characteristics, methods of distribution and intended use of the end products.

8.5.4 Hazard control plan (HACCP/OPRP plan)

8.5.4.1 General

The organization shall establish, implement and maintain a hazard control plan. The hazard control plan shall be maintained as documented information and shall include the following information for each control measure at each CCP or OPRP:

- a) food safety hazard(s) to be controlled at the CCP or by the OPRP;
- b) critical limit(s) at CCP or action criteria for OPRP;
- c) monitoring procedure(s);
- d) correction(s) to be made if critical limits or action criteria are not met;
- e) responsibilities and authorities;
- f) records of monitoring.

8.5.4.2 Determination of critical limits and action criteria

Critical limits at CCPs and action criteria for OPRPs shall be specified. The rationale for their determination shall be maintained as documented information.

Critical limits at CCPs shall be measurable. Conformance with critical limits shall ensure that the acceptable level is not exceeded.

Action criteria for OPRPs shall be measurable or observable. Conformance with action criteria shall contribute to the assurance that the acceptable level is not exceeded.

8.5.4.3 Monitoring systems at CCPs and for OPRPs

At each CCP, a monitoring system shall be established for each control measure or combination of control measure(s) to detect any failure to remain within the critical limits. The system shall include all scheduled measurements relative to the critical limit(s).

For each OPRP, a monitoring system shall be established for the control measure or combination of control measure(s) to detect failure to meet the action criterion.

The monitoring system, at each CCP and for each OPRP, shall consist of documented information, including:

- a) measurements or observations that provide results within an adequate time frame;
- b) monitoring methods or devices used;
- c) applicable calibration methods or, for OPRPs, equivalent methods for verification of reliable measurements or observations (see [8.7](#));
- d) monitoring frequency;
- e) monitoring results;
- f) responsibility and authority related to monitoring;

g) responsibility and authority related to evaluation of monitoring results.

At each CCP, the monitoring method and frequency shall be capable of timely detection of any failure to remain within critical limits, to allow timely isolation and evaluation of the product (see 8.9.4).

For each OPRP, the monitoring method and frequency shall be proportionate to the likelihood of failure and the severity of consequences.

When monitoring an OPRP is based on subjective data from observations (e.g. visual inspection), the method shall be supported by instructions or specifications.

8.5.4.4 Actions when critical limits or action criteria are not met

The organization shall specify corrections (see 8.9.2) and corrective actions (see 8.9.3) to be taken when critical limits or action criterion are not met and shall ensure that:

- a) the potentially unsafe products are not released (see 8.9.4);
- b) the cause of nonconformity is identified;
- c) the parameter(s) controlled at the CCP or by the OPRP is (are) returned within the critical limits or action criteria;
- d) recurrence is prevented.

The organization shall make corrections in accordance with 8.9.2 and corrective actions in accordance with 8.9.3.

8.5.4.5 Implementation of the hazard control plan

The organization shall implement and maintain the hazard control plan, and retain evidence of the implementation as documented information.

8.6 Updating the information specifying the PRPs and the hazard control plan

Following the establishment of the hazard control plan, the organization shall update the following information, if necessary:

- a) characteristics of raw materials, ingredients and product-contact materials;
- b) characteristics of end products;
- c) intended use;
- d) flow diagrams and descriptions of processes and process environment.

The organization shall ensure that the hazard control plan and/or the PRP(s) are up to date.

8.7 Control of monitoring and measuring

The organization shall provide evidence that the specified monitoring and measuring methods and equipment in use are adequate for the monitoring and measuring activities related to the PRP(s) and the hazard control plan.

The monitoring and measuring equipment used shall be:

- a) calibrated or verified at specified intervals prior to use;
- b) adjusted or re-adjusted as necessary;
- c) identified to enable the calibration status to be determined;

- d) safeguarded from adjustments that would invalidate the measurement results;
- e) protected from damage and deterioration.

The results of calibration and verification shall be retained as documented information. The calibration of all the equipment shall be traceable to international or national measurement standards; where no standards exist, the basis used for calibration or verification shall be retained as documented information.

The organization shall assess the validity of the previous measurement results when the equipment or process environment is found not to conform to requirements. The organization shall take appropriate action in relation to the equipment or process environment and any product affected by the non-conformance.

The assessment and resulting action shall be maintained as documented information.

Software used in monitoring and measuring within the FSMS shall be validated by the organization, software supplier or third party prior to use. Documented information on validation activities shall be maintained by the organization and the software shall be updated in a timely manner.

Whenever there are changes, including software configuration/modifications to commercial off-the-shelf software, they shall be authorized, documented and validated before implementation.

NOTE Commercial off-the-shelf software in general use within its designed application range can be considered to be sufficiently validated.

8.8 Verification related to PRPs and the hazard control plan

8.8.1 Verification

The organization shall establish, implement and maintain verification activities. The verification planning shall define purpose, methods, frequencies and responsibilities for the verification activities.

The verification activities shall confirm that:

- a) the PRP(s) are implemented and effective;
- b) the hazard control plan is implemented and effective;
- c) hazard levels are within identified acceptable levels;
- d) input to the hazard analysis is updated;
- e) other actions determined by the organization are implemented and effective.

The organization shall ensure that verification activities are not carried out by the person responsible for monitoring the same activities.

Verification results shall be retained as documented information and shall be communicated.

Where verification is based on testing of end product samples or direct process samples and where such test samples show nonconformity with the acceptable level of the food safety hazard (see [8.5.2.2](#)), the organization shall handle the affected lot(s) of product as potentially unsafe (see [8.9.4.3](#)) and apply corrective actions in accordance with [8.9.3](#).

8.8.2 Analysis of results of verification activities

The food safety team shall conduct an analysis of the results of verification that shall be used as an input to the performance evaluation of the FSMS (see [9.1.2](#)).

8.9 Control of product and process nonconformities

8.9.1 General

The organization shall ensure that data derived from the monitoring of OPRPs and at CCPs are evaluated by designated persons who are competent and have the authority to initiate corrections and corrective actions.

8.9.2 Corrections

8.9.2.1 The organization shall ensure that when critical limits at CCP(s) and/or action criteria for OPRPs are not met, the products affected are identified and controlled with regard to their use and release.

The organization shall establish, maintain and update documented information that includes:

- a) a method of identification, assessment and correction for affected products to ensure their proper handling;
- b) arrangements for review of the corrections carried out.

8.9.2.2 When critical limits at CCPs are not met, affected products shall be identified and handled as potentially unsafe products (see [8.9.4](#)).

8.9.2.3 Where action criteria for an OPRP are not met, the following shall be carried out:

- a) determination of the consequences of that failure with respect to food safety;
- b) determination of the cause(s) of failure;
- c) identification of the affected products and handling in accordance with [8.9.4](#).

The organization shall retain results of the evaluation as documented information.

8.9.2.4 Documented information shall be retained to describe corrections made on nonconforming products and processes, including:

- a) the nature of the nonconformity;
- b) the cause(s) of the failure;
- c) the consequences as a result of the nonconformity.

8.9.3 Corrective actions

The need for corrective actions shall be evaluated when critical limits at CCP(s) and/or action criteria for OPRPs are not met.

The organization shall establish and maintain documented information that specifies appropriate actions to identify and eliminate the cause of detected nonconformities, to prevent recurrence, and to return the process to control after a nonconformity is identified.

These actions shall include:

- a) reviewing nonconformities identified by customer and/or consumer complaints and/or regulatory inspection reports;
- b) reviewing trends in monitoring results that can indicate loss of control;
- c) determining the cause(s) of nonconformities;

- d) determining and implementing actions to ensure that nonconformities do not recur;
- e) documenting the results of corrective actions taken;
- f) verifying corrective actions taken to ensure that they are effective.

The organization shall retain documented information on all corrective actions.

8.9.4 Handling of potentially unsafe products

8.9.4.1 General

The organization shall take action(s) to prevent potentially unsafe products from entering the food chain, unless it can demonstrate that:

- a) the food safety hazard(s) of concern is (are) reduced to the defined acceptable levels;
- b) the food safety hazard(s) of concern will be reduced to identified acceptable levels prior to entering the food chain; or
- c) the product still meets the defined acceptable level(s) of the food safety hazard(s) of concern despite the nonconformity.

The organization shall retain products that have been identified as potentially unsafe under its control until the products have been evaluated and the disposition has been determined.

If products that have left the control of the organization are subsequently determined to be unsafe, the organization shall notify relevant interested parties and initiate a withdrawal/recall (see [8.9.5](#)).

The controls and related responses from relevant interested parties and authorization for dealing with potentially unsafe products shall be retained as documented information.

8.9.4.2 Evaluation for release

Each lot of products affected by the nonconformity shall be evaluated.

Products affected by failure to remain within critical limits at CCPs shall not be released, but shall be handled in accordance with [8.9.4.3](#).

Products affected by failure to meet action criterion for OPRPs shall only be released as safe when any of the following conditions apply:

- a) evidence other than the monitoring system demonstrates that the control measures have been effective;
- b) evidence shows that the combined effect of the control measures for that particular product conforms to the performance intended (i.e. identified acceptable levels);
- c) the results of sampling, analysis and/or other verification activities demonstrate that the affected products conform to the identified acceptable levels for the food safety hazard(s) concerned.

Results of evaluation for release of products shall be retained as documented information.

8.9.4.3 Disposition of nonconforming products

Products that are not acceptable for release shall be:

- a) reprocessed or further processed within or outside the organization to ensure that the food safety hazard is reduced to acceptable levels; or
- b) redirected for other use as long as food safety in the food chain is not affected; or