



GLOBAL FOOD SAFETY INITIATIVE

PRESS RELEASE - For immediate release

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GFSI benchmarking drives equivalency between food safety schemes

The Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) Board of Directors announced today that the Global Red Meat Standard (GRMS) has been successfully benchmarked by GFSI.

The Global Red Meat Standard, GRMS, managed by the Danish Agriculture & Food Council and launched in late 2006, was developed specifically for slaughtering, cutting, deboning and the sale of red meat and meat products.

This benchmarking process has been completed to determine equivalency against an internationally recognized set of food safety requirements, based on industry best practice and sound science. These requirements are developed through a consensus building process by key stakeholders in the food supply chain and can be found in the GFSI Guidance Document Version 5, freely available for download on www.mygfsi.com.

Due to the common acceptance of GFSI recognized schemes in the global market place, this standard will provide further flexibility and choice to the food supply chain.

JP Suarez, Chairman of the Global Food Safety Initiative Board of Directors and Senior Vice President and General Counsel, International Division, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. said “The GFSI Board of Directors believes this scheme will contribute well to our overall objective of making safe food for consumers. We are pleased that the marketplace will have access to a specialised food safety scheme that provides confidence through its equivalence to the GFSI requirements”.

Other current recognized GFSI schemes are:

- BRC Global Standard Version 5
- Dutch HACCP (Option B)
- FSSC 22000 (Conditional Recognition)
- International Food Standard Version 5
- SQF 2000 Level 2
- GlobalGAP (Fruit and Vegetable Scope Options 1 and 2 only)
- SQF 1000 Level 2 (against version 4 of the GFSI Guidance Document)

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About the Global Food Safety Initiative

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



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About the Global Red Meat Standard

The GRMS is a scheme specially developed for the meat industry. Its cornerstone is product safety, focusing on critical areas affecting the maintenance of high meat safety requirements. For further information please visit www.grms.org or contact the Danish Agriculture & Food Council.

