



Qualitätssicherung. **Vom Landwirt bis zur Ladentheke.**

CIRCULAR Certification Bodies



Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Conducting QS audits

Dear Sir or Madam,

due to the current spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), we would like to inform you that upcoming audit dates may be postponed at the discretion of the respective certification body. Please note that the decision is not to be made in general, but rather in consideration of the respective circumstances on site in each individual case.

For companies where the QS certification is about to expire and the implementation of a QS audit is necessary at short notice to continue participation in the QS system, a three-month extension of the QS eligibility of delivery can be made in the QS database. The period of the subsequent follow-up certification then begins with the expiry of the previous certification without taking the three-month extension into account (see Guideline Certification, chapter 5.5.3).

In case it is still not possible to carry out an audit even after the extended QS eligibility of delivery has expired, please contact us directly to coordinate the further procedure.

The procedure described above also applies in case the company refuses to carry out the audit with reference to the current situation. If the company is usually audited to other standards at the same time (e.g. combined audits), postponement of the QS audit is only possible if the postponement affects all audits.

Any additional spot audits, that are to be conducted between two regular audits, the allowed time period should be complied with.

For the protection of both, the auditors and the employees of the audited companies, please observe the hygiene rules in a particular manner. Information on this can be found on the website of the World Health Organization www.who.int.

Best regards,

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