



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



## **CIRCULAR** Certification Bodies

### **Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2)**

#### Extension of the eligibility of delivery of all QS-certified sites

Dear Sir or Madam,

due to the current spread of the coronavirus, the **eligibility of delivery of all QS-certified sites (incl. QS-GAP) will be extended by two months** (changeover in the QS database on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020).

This procedure has been approved by the QS advisory boards.

According to the extended QS eligibility of delivery, necessary QS audits can be postponed to a later date (see also our letter of March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020).

If, despite the current situation, QS audits are to be carried out, it is still the case that they will only be carried out if both, the company and the auditor, **have agreed** to the audit being implemented. Again, we strongly recommend that audits should not be carried out at this time.

The QS scheme participants will also receive this information today.

Please note the following information.

#### **Restoration of the QS eligibility of delivery after K.O. assessments**

The two-month extension of the QS eligibility of delivery **applies to all currently QS-supplying locations**, but not to those that are not currently entitled to deliver to QS due to K.O. assessments.

If K.O. assessments have been awarded in the course of QS regular audits, it is at the discretion of the certification body whether an on-site audit is required to restore QS certification. In case of exclusively documentary deviations, a transmission of documents may be sufficient to prove the implementation of the corrective measures and thus restore the QS eligibility of delivery.

#### **Implementation of documentary checks**

The performance of solely document audits is only possible for production types where the audit is performed exclusively on the basis of documents anyway (e.g. livestock transport, agencies, brokers, coordinator, route dealers, charterers). For all other types of production, the implementation of document or remote audits is still not permitted.

Bonn, 25.03.2020

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The measures communicated by us in our letters of March 10<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 2020 remain valid.

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](http://www.who.int).

Best regards,

QS Qualität und Sicherheit GmbH

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Dr. Hermann-Josef Nienhoff