

NEW

IFS HPC Version 3

NEWSLETTER FOR INDUSTRY | DECEMBER 2022

“ Consumers’ expectations of the quality and product safety of household and personal care products have increased in recent years. Health and safety issues have created a desire for more transparency in production and the supply chain. The IFS HPC is the standard developed to build more confidence in the market. With the new version 3, we offer an improved approach to assessing a company’s product safety and quality management.



Stephan Tromp
IFS Managing Director

The new IFS HPC version 3

IFS – International Featured Standards is pleased to announce the publication of the new IFS HPC version 3. IFS HPC is a worldwide acknowledged standard for assessing manufacturers of household and personal care products focusing on quality, safety, and production processes. The standard is applicable to private labels, manufacturers’ brands and non-branded products used by other organisations.

The new version of the standard provides a better approach to the detailed assessment of a company’s product safety and quality management, including customer specifications. Its particular focus on assessing relevant and topical issues for the HPC industry, like hazard analysis, risk assessment, allergen risk mitigation, product safety culture, and product specifications, clearly demonstrates the objectives of the new IFS HPC Standard. The business partners trust this solid and coherent approach.



IFS HPC Version 3

IFS HPC version 3 at a glance

The most relevant changes and improvements are:

- > The audit approach is more solid and coherent.
- > You now have the option of having the audit performed unannounced. This way you can show your customers that you constantly meet the standard requirements.
- > The wording of the requirements is more consistent and prescriptive for better comprehensibility.
- > The scoring system has been updated.
- > Product safety culture has been incorporated into the requirements.



Timelines



IFS HPC version 3 audits are possible from **1st June 2023** and become mandatory for all certified companies as of 1st September. In general, the applicability of IFS HPC version 2 ends **31st August 2023**.

In the IFS HPC version 3 doctrine that we will publish before June 2023, we will explain the exceptional situations in which the application of IFS HPC version 2 is possible after this date.

What's new in the checklist

Voluntary Unannounced Audits

With IFS HPC version 3, you will have the option to have the audit performed unannounced. This option can apply to recertification and initial assessments.

Unannounced audits **increase credibility in the audit process**. They demonstrate compliance and assure your stakeholders that you are operating at the same level of safety and complying with IFS Requirements each day.

Scoring

In IFS HPC version 3 the scoring system has been updated.

We are **working on a new scoring brochure** that we will publish before the first HPC version 3 audits will take place.

Product Safety Culture

Product safety culture is addressed throughout the standard. It is also **explicitly included in three requirements**. For more information, see our Product Safety Culture fact sheet. It is available on the HPC Standard page of the IFS Website.

To learn more, IFS also offers an e-learning called "Product and Food Safety Culture". It will provide you with guidelines and valuable insights into the topic.

You can find this course in our [IFS Webshop >](#)



IFS HPC Version 3

Training and seminar



Free online seminar

The IFS Academy will provide a free online seminar for certified companies about the main changes in HPC version 3. It will be held in English. We will inform you about it as soon as we have more details.



Industry Training

To be well prepared for HPC version 3, our training providers will offer the IFS HPC Awareness and Risk Assessment Training. We have provided them with our official training materials. Please visit our website to find an official IFS Training Provider near you.

Support and supportive materials

New IFS HPC Fact Sheet

In this new fact sheet, we summarise the main features of the IFS HPC Standard in general and how certified companies can benefit from it. Its intention is to give managers and stakeholders a **quick overview of the standard**. The document is available in English, German, French, Spanish, Italian and Polish. Please follow the link below to download this document.



Approved IFS Consultants

For advice and guidance regarding the implementation of the IFS Requirements or specific topics you can contact an approved IFS Consultant. Find them on our website.

Contact

We hope we have provided you with sufficient information about the new HPC version. If you have any questions about the standard content, please contact your regional **IFS Representative** or send an e-mail (in English) to the IFS Standard Management Team: Standardmanagement@ifs-certification.com. You can download all relevant documents about IFS HPC from [our website >](#)

