

NEW

# IFS Logistics version 3

NEWSLETTER FOR INDUSTRY | DECEMBER 2023



With IFS Logistics version 3, we present a standard updated to current regulations, market expectations and the latest trends. IFS has developed this version with international experts from the logistics and food industry, retail and wholesale companies and certification bodies. Their input and expertise ensure that the requirements meet the needs of the market. I thank everyone who has contributed to realising this new version."



Stephan Tromp  
IFS Managing Director

## Introducing version 3 of the IFS Logistics Standard

IFS International Featured Standards is pleased to introduce IFS Logistics version 3. The IFS Logistics Standard assesses the quality and safety of logistics activities and includes transport, storage, distribution, loading and unloading, and more. Many retail, wholesale and other companies trust the IFS Logistics Certificates that show the logistics company has established robust procedures and processes to handle their products professionally and responsibly. IFS Logistics version 3 has fewer requirements and an optimised protocol, structure and scoring system. Also, we made extensions and clarifications in the scopes. These changes make it easier for all stakeholders to work with the standard and implement the requirements.

# IFS Logistics version 3

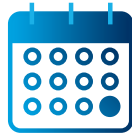
## The most significant changes

- > There are fewer requirements, an optimised protocol, and a structure that consequently follows the audit path.
- > A new scope for animal feed is added and we introduced two more logistics processing services: simple sorting of fruits and vegetables and labelling.
- > The IFS Logistics scope is extended and clarified, especially for short-term storage/transport of containers, organising logistics activities and exclusion rules.
- > Partly outsourced logistics processing services are included in the standard.
- > The B-score is again classified as a deviation, so businesses can define a correction and corrective action to improve their performance continuously.
- > The new IFS Star status indicates that the audit was unannounced. Supply chain partners can immediately see that the certified company stands out.
- > The standard is aligned with the Codex Alimentarius and ISO/IEC 17065, GFSI Benchmarking Requirements and considers ISO 22003-2.



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## Timelines



IFS Logistics version 3 audits are possible from **1 June 2024** and become mandatory as of **1 December 2024**.

In general, the **applicability of version 2.3 ends on 30 November 2024**. However, version 2.3 can apply after 1 December 2024 in some exceptional situations. The general admission of these exceptions ends on 30 November 2025. Here is an overview:

- For **unannounced audits**: Version 3 applies when the audit window starts on or after 1 June 2024.
- For **multi-location audits**: You must audit sites and head office to the same version. After 1 December 2024, version 3 applies to all audits performed at the head office.
- For **follow-up audits**: When the connected main audit took place according to version 2.3 before 1 December 2024 version 2.3 also applies for the follow-up audit.
- For **extension audits**: When the connected main audit took place according to version 2.3 before 1 December 2024, version 2.3 also applies for the extension audit.



## What else you should know

### Unannounced Audits

Performing at least one of every third audit unannounced is obligatory. We have clarified the counting of the unannounced audits.

### IFS Star

Unannounced audits increase credibility in the audit process. It demonstrates that your company implements the IFS Requirements every day. We introduce the IFS Star status **to indicate that the audit was unannounced**. It shows your customers your outstanding engagement. **A star will be visible in the IFS Database and on the IFS Certificate**. Also, we have created a special IFS Logistics Logo for this purpose.

### Scoring System

The **B-score is now classified as a deviation again**. It is more apparent to all parties involved, and by defining a **correction or corrective action**, your system will continuously improve. We have up-dated our brochure "The IFS Scoring System – Driving Continuous Improvement", which explains it in more detail.

### 50% On-Site Rule

The auditor will spend at least 50% of the audit time on-site. A reduction is possible in certain situations as **defined in the standard**. Please check with your CB.

### Action Plan

Your CB must send an **action plan within two weeks** after the audit. It is no longer mandatory that the CB sends a provisional report. Both audited companies and auditors will benefit from this more efficient and practical working method.

# IFS Logistics version 3

## Training and Support



### Industry Training

To be well prepared for IFS Logistics version 3, our training providers will offer **courses with our official training materials**. Please visit our website to find an official IFS Training Provider near you.



### Approved IFS Consultants

You can contact an approved IFS Consultant for **advice, guidance, or training** regarding implementing the IFS Requirements or specific topics. Find them on our [website](#).



### New IFS Software for internal audits and reporting

The new IFS auditXpress Neo software makes reporting more convenient and efficient. You will notice that it is fast, intuitive, and clearly arranged. It also facilitates cooperation with your auditor and CB, who use the same software. We expect the new software for IFS Logistics version 3 to be available shortly before the first audits start.



### The IFS Audit Manager App

We will **update the IFS App to IFS Logistics version 3**. The app helps you organise, document, follow up on internal audits and prepare audit reports.



### Checklist Comparison

Comparison documents of IFS Logistics version 2.3 and 3 are in the pipeline. They will help you **track the changes requirement by requirement**. We will inform you when the document becomes available.



### IFS Pathway

As an IFS certified company, you can access the IFS Pathway. It is a **valuable resource giving practical guidance to deepen your knowledge** about specific technical topics regarding the IFS Standards. Check our website or log in to the IFS Database for more information.



### New IFS Logistics Fact Sheet

In this new fact sheet, we summarise the main features of the IFS Logistics Standard. It gives managers and stakeholders a **quick overview of the standard, benefits for certified companies and the support IFS offers**. The document is available in our main languages English, French, Italian and Spanish on our website.

# IFS Logistics version 3

## Find relevant documents and stay up to date

- > Download the **IFS Logistics version 3 standard** [here](#) (in English). We will translate the standard into our main languages and inform you when these are available.
- > Download the **IFS Scoring System brochure** in [English](#), [German](#), [French](#), [Italian](#) or [Spanish](#).
- > Further **relevant documents** are available on the [IFS Logistics webpage](#).
- > In the **quarterly IFS Logistics News and Notifications**, we inform about current topics relating to the standard. As a certified company, you will receive the newsletter automatically. If not, check if your CB has uploaded the correct e-mail address to our database. You can also subscribe to the newsletter via our [website](#).
- > Follow IFS on [LinkedIn](#) to get the latest updates on our standards and new documents becoming available.



## Contact

We hope we have provided sufficient information about IFS Logistics version 3 in this newsletter. If you have any questions about the standard content, don't hesitate to get in touch with your regional **IFS Representative** or send an e-mail (in English) to [Standardmanagement@ifs-certification.com](mailto:Standardmanagement@ifs-certification.com)