

# IFS GLOBAL MARKETS FOOD

An easy entry into effective product safety and quality processes



## WHAT IS IFS GLOBAL MARKETS FOOD AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

IFS Global Markets Food is a development program that helps companies produce safe, high quality products that meet your customers' expectations. You gradually build risk based and optimised food safety and quality processes that take you along the path towards IFS Food certification. The journey to compliance allows you to meet both legal and customer requirements, and at the same time, work more efficiently and economically.

## FEATURES OF THE IFS GLOBAL MARKETS FOOD PROGRAM

### Enables custom solutions

- Flexibility allows for individual agreements with business partners on the targeted level and timeframe
- The non-prescriptive approach of IFS allows for custom solutions that take your specific production circumstances into account

### Access to the exclusive IFS Database

The IFS Database offers several useful features for IFS assessed companies. As an IFS Global Markets Food assessed company, you are visible to all potential business partners. Potential customers and suppliers can find your company.

Trade partners can easily request your assessment report and your action plan. You can also request further information from your own suppliers. As an assessed company, you can receive automatic notifications regarding your suppliers and use the analysis functions of the IFS Database.

The integrated IFS Trend Risk Monitor and IFS WordCloud provide information about possible risks in your supply chain. These features simplify the daily work of quality managers by providing this important information in one location.

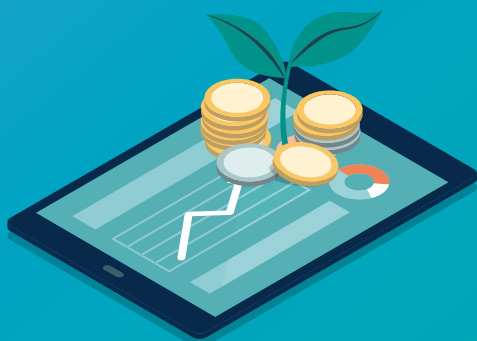
# BENEFITS OF IFS GLOBAL MARKETS FOOD AT A GLANCE

## INCREASES SALES AND TRUST



- > Being assessed to IFS Global Markets Food increases the trust of your existing and potential customers. It shows that you can produce safe products according to basic legal requirements and customer specifications
- > New business opportunities arise as potential new customers can find you in the IFS Database
- > Authorities are promptly provided with the information and documents they need during their inspections or in case of incidents
- > You can react faster in case of incidents and customer complaints due to improved traceability systems

## INCREASES EFFICIENCY AND REDUCES COSTS



- > Implementation costs are more manageable in a gradual implementation approach pending on the initial status
- > More efficient processes will improve quality and reduce waste and costs related to recalls and complaints

## DRIVES CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



- > An impartial external expert evaluates your current products and processes and identifies the need for actions
- > The graded rating system indicates where your business can improve its performance and facilitates the prioritisation of follow-up activities

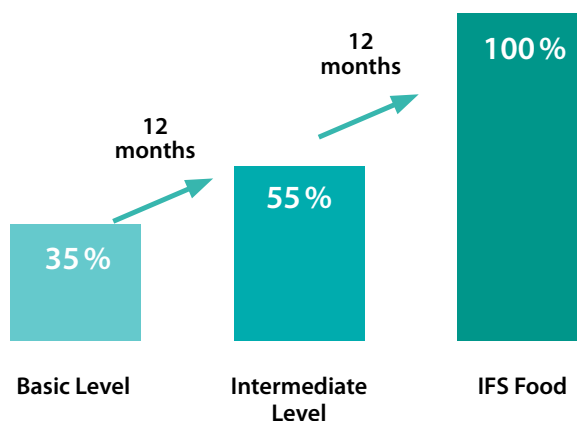
## THE IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF REQUIREMENTS

To implement all the IFS Global Markets Food requirements and follow it permanently may sound like a challenging and mammoth task – especially for smaller companies or those not having a fully developed product safety and quality process management yet. For this reason, the program is built in steps.

The requirements for comprehensive product safety and quality management processes are gradually introduced.

The expected duration of each level is one year; however, the program allows flexibility in the timeframe, if it is agreed with your business partner. Within three years, you should reach the implementation of the IFS Food standard requirements.

### REQUIREMENTS OF IFS FOOD



## WHAT TO DO?



1. Download the IFS Global Markets Food Program and other supporting documents (such as the IFS Global Markets Food Guideline) from the IFS website for free.
2. Implement the requirements with the help of:
  - > The free IFS Audit Manager App for self-assessment and status determination
  - > IFS Training courses (face-to-face or online) through the IFS Academy or the IFS Training Centres – listed on the IFS website
  - > Recognised IFS Consultants – listed on the IFS website
3. Select and contact a listed certification body (CB) or assessment service provider (ASP) from the IFS website.
4. Schedule the assessment. The CB or ASP performs the assessment at your company and evaluates products and processes according to your level of implementation.
5. Prepare your action plan for deviations identified by the assessor.

## HOW DOES IFS SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION?



### IFS App

The basic version of the IFS Audit Manager app is free of charge. It includes the complete IFS Global Markets Food checklist, document templates, and further supportive documents. By using the app, you can easily identify your current level of compliance and uncover gaps.



### Training

Human resources are a precious commodity, especially in smaller companies. To minimise time and travel effort for quality managers, IFS offers webinars and e-learning through the IFS Academy. Also, IFS Training Centres offer IFS related courses (both remote and in person) in the respective language of the country in which they are located. You can find more information on the IFS Website.



### IFS Pathway

IFS has developed this new tool available for companies assessed to the IFS Global Markets program. It supports businesses on their way towards complete IFS Food certification. The IFS Pathway is based on an interactive platform with technical content. This includes shared experiences for implementation and modular planning oriented towards a full IFS Certification process. It supports continuous improvement and commitment to delivering trusted products.

**Build your product safety and quality processes with IFS Global Markets Food.**  
Start here: [www.ifs-certification.com](http://www.ifs-certification.com)



## About IFS

With the professional expertise of retailers, manufacturers, certification bodies and other experts worldwide, IFS develops globally recognised product quality and safety standards and development programs. To complement this, IFS offers supportive tools and guidance documents to help quality managers work more efficiently. The common goal of IFS is to strive for the best product safety and quality management system so that consumers can trust the products they buy.

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