



## **BRCGS Suspension of Support Training Services (STS)**

BRCGS has formally suspended Support Training Services (STS) from auditing against the Global Standards for Food Safety, Storage and Distribution, and Agents and Brokers from **1 July 2019** due to poor performance against the BRCGS Key Performance Indicators.

The BRCGS Compliance team will be working closely with STS and their accreditation body, UKAS, to review certification processes and ensure appropriate additional safeguards have been put in place to preserve the integrity of the BRCGS certification scheme. A corrective action plan will be put in place and reviewed to establish when the suspension can be lifted.

The action taken by BRCGS underlines the importance which is placed on the absolute integrity of the BRCGS scheme.

### **Consequences of this action:**

#### **Sites that have had audits but with certificates pending**

Further reviews will be undertaken prior to permitting STS to issue a certificate. Therefore, there may be a delay to certificates being issued.

#### **Sites with audits pending**

STS are not permitted to undertake BRCGS audits from 1 July 2019.

Sites with audits currently planned during the suspension period will be contacted by STS and BRCGS to help them find an alternative certification body. Sites should make arrangements with an alternative BRCGS approved and accredited certification body. Details can be found on the [BRCGS Directory](#).

#### **Existing certificated sites**

A review is ongoing of the processes operated by STS to ensure the validity of currently issued certificates. At this stage there is no reason to doubt the validity of these certificates and the certificates will be valid for the duration of the certificate.

#### **When will suspension be lifted?**

The suspension can only be lifted once corrective actions have been put in place and BRCGS and UKAS are satisfied that certification processes are being operated satisfactorily. Corrective actions put in place will need to be reviewed and established before the suspension can be lifted.



**For further information contact:**

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**BRCGS**

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For more details about the BRCGS Compliance programme visit

<https://www.brcgs.com/brand-owners/compliance-and-integrity/>