



GLOBAL STANDARD
**AGENTS AND
BROKERS**



QUICK GUIDE FOR **ISSUE 2**

WHY CHOOSE THE BRC STANDARD?

BENEFITS

- BRC Global Standards are internationally recognised
- Credible independent assessment of a company's product safety and quality management systems
- Increases customer confidence, thereby facilitating trade
- Clearly defined risk based requirements
- Support compliance with regulatory requirements

ACHIEVABLE

Takes a common sense, risk-based approach, providing companies with a clear path towards achieving certification.

APPROPRIATE

The Standard is practically written and was developed with industry experts. It incorporates quality management systems and internationally accepted best practices to ensure product safety and quality. The Standard includes optional modules to allow for flexibility.

SUPPORTED BY CUSTOMERS

Many retailers, major manufacturers and food service companies around the world support the use of the Standard and accept it as part of their supplier approval process.

COST EFFECTIVE

Widely accepted certification reduces the need and expense of duplicate audits. Audits are completed by local BRC trained and approved auditors to enable an internationally accepted Standard to be audited at local rates.

REQUIREMENTS

SENIOR MANAGEMENT COMMITMENT

Commitment at a senior level is essential for any product safety system to be effective and to ensure the full application and continual development of these systems.

HAZARD & RISK ASSESSMENT

Effective hazard and risk assessment enables the company to identify and manage those hazards that may pose a risk to the quality, safety or integrity of these products.

PRODUCT SAFETY AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

This section ensures the company works to a well-documented, systematic approach that forms the basis for the product and process controls necessary to maintain product safety, meet customer expectations and ensure staff are trained and informed.

SUPPLIER AND SUB-CONTRACTED SERVICE MANAGEMENT

Controls relating to the companies from whom product is purchased to ensure product safety, legality, integrity and quality.

PERSONNEL

Training is covered in this section.

STEPS TO CERTIFICATION

1. LEARN

- Visit the website www.brcglobalstandards.com
- Obtain a copy of the Standard and study it
 - Interpretation Guidelines may be useful
 - Assemble and train a team

2. REVIEW

- Perform a self-assessment gap analysis to find out what is missing/inadequate
 - Obtain consultancy if needed

3. PREPARE

- Carry out risk assessments
- Establish necessary controls
 - Prepare procedures
- Confirm company is capable of meeting BRC requirements
 - Undertake internal audits

4. PLAN

- Select & contact a suitable Certification Body
 - Arrange a pre-assessment visit (optional)
- Implement any identified corrective actions

5. AUDIT AND CERTIFICATION

- Arrange an audit visit
- Make sure staff are available & preparations made
 - Audit is conducted
- Certification Body presents audit report and determines whether the site can achieve certification
 - Carry out corrective actions
- Achieve certification to gain entry onto the public BRC Directory

6. MAINTAIN

- Continue to meet requirements
- Arrange new audit before expiry of current certificate
 - Continual improvement

BRC GLOBAL STANDARD FOR AGENTS AND BROKERS

This Standard sets out the requirements to achieve certification to the new BRC Global Standard for Agents and Brokers. The Standard has been developed to provide a framework to manage product safety, quality and legality for businesses in the food, packaging and consumer products which buy, sell or facilitate the trade of products.

There have been many requests for a Global Standard to be produced to cover this sector both from the industry and from their customer's, retailers, food service companies and manufacturers purchasing from these companies.

The Standard has been designed to support compliance with regulatory requirements in the Food Safety Modernisation Act in the US and EU legislative requirements.

IS THE STANDARD FOR ME?

The Global Standard for Agents and Brokers provides essential certification for companies in the food, packaging or consumer products supply chain that provide the services of purchase, importation or distribution of products. These companies play an essential role in the movement and trade of products, providing a critical link in their chain of custody; influencing product safety and quality standards at their suppliers and are responsible for maintaining an effective chain of traceability.

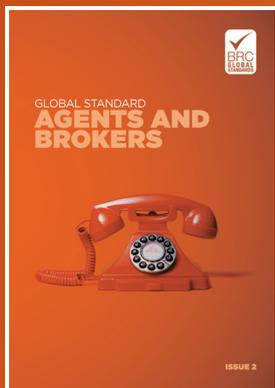
The Standard is therefore applicable to:

Brokers: Companies that purchase or 'take title to' products for resale to manufacturers, other brokers, retailers or food service companies but not directly to the consumer.

Agents or Non-Manufacturing Service

Providers: Companies that trade between a manufacturer or broker and their customers but do not at any point own or take title to the goods. Such companies provide a range of services to facilitate the safe and legal trade of products.

SUPPORT



Access the Standard, Interpretation Guideline, supporting publications and additional resources quickly and easily via our online subscription platform www.brcparticipate.com

Printed copies can be purchased from the BRC Bookshop, with the Standard available to download FREE of charge at www.brcbookshop.com

TRAINING

The BRC Academy provides a wide range of courses in the UK, as well as training around the world in local languages through its network of qualified trainers.

For more information or to book a course, please visit www.brctrainingacademy.com

CONTACT US

For more information, telephone the BRC Technical Services Helpline +44 (0)20 3931 8148 or email enquiries@brcglobalstandards.com

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