IFS Logistics

NEW

IFS Logistics version 3

NEWSLETTER FOR CERTIFICATION BODIES | 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.

www.ifs-certification.com

IFS Logistics

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 ISO22003-2.**
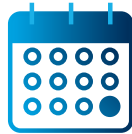
Especially relevant updates for CBs and auditors

> We **simplified the onboarding process** of already qualified auditors for GFSI benchmarked schemes following ISO 17065 accreditation.

> The general **rules for auditors' qualification and progress are now harmonised**.

> Audited companies must receive **the action plan within two weeks** after the audit. It is no longer mandatory to send a provisional report. This working method is more practical for companies and auditors.

> The new **IFS auditXpress Neo software makes reporting more convenient and efficient**. You will notice that it is faster, more intuitive, and more clearly arranged. It also helps auditors fill in the compulsory fields. We expect the new software to be available shortly before IFS Logistics version 3 audits start.

IFS
Logistics

IFS Logistics version 3

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.

Accreditation and benchmark

The IFS Logistics version 3 accreditation process is in progress with the International Accreditation Forum (IAF). We have also applied for GFSI recognition.

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. The star status indicates that the audit was unannounced.

Scoring System

The B-score is now classified as a deviation again. It will be a topic in the auditor training. The updated brochure, "The IFS Scoring System – Driving Continuous Improvement", explains the new system 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.

IFS

Logistics

IFS Logistics version 3

Training and Guidance

Training courses

Train the Trainer

The IFS Academy will offer a mandatory Train the Trainer IFS Logistics version 3 course for all IFS In-house Trainers of certification bodies. It is an online course that will only take half a day. Your inhouse trainers can register now for the course on auditor qualification platform.

Conversion training for auditors

Auditors must participate in the conversion training offered by the CB. It will take 4 hours and can be done online or face-to-face.

Upcoming guidance for auditors

> You can expect a **doctrine for IFS Logistics version 3**. This document will be less extensive because we have added the main doctrine rules to the standard.

> We will update the **Guideline for Multi-site Certification**. This document explains in detail what needs to be considered and carried out during a multi-site certification.

> Furthermore, we are working on the **IFS Logistics version 2.3 and 3 comparison**.

We will inform you as soon as these documents become available.

Documents

> Download the IFS Logistics version 3 standard *here* (in English).

> Download the IFS Scoring System brochure in *English, German, French, Italian* or *Spanish*.

> Further relevant documents are available on the *IFS Logistics webpage*.

We will translate the standard into our main languages and inform you when they are 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*

IFS Management GmbH
Am Weidendamm 1 A | DE 10117 Berlin
Phone: +49 30 726 10 53 74
E-mail: Standardmanagement@ifs-certification.com

www.ifs-certification.com

Follow IFS

Published: December 2023