



Dear all,

BRCGS published Issue 6 of the Global Standard for Packaging Materials in August 2019 and the new Standard will be used for all audits conducted from 1 February 2020. Certificates issued against Issue 5 will remain valid for the duration indicated on the certificate.

8 Facts you need to know about Issue 6:

- ✓ Removal of the Low Hygiene category for simplification but with new risk-based requirements to ensure low hygiene sites are not disadvantaged.
- ✓ A new fundamental clause on corrective and preventive action.
- ✓ A new section that puts in place a microbiological environmental monitoring programme based on risk.
- ✓ A new section on product authenticity claims and chain of custody.
- ✓ Traded goods are now part of the Standard. There is no longer a separate module for traded goods.
- ✓ Simplification of the voluntary full unannounced audit programme with the removal of the split unannounced option 2.
- ✓ Introduction of a new module for control of the release of pellet, flake and powder plastic packaging materials into the environment.
- ✓ Audits against the new Standard and the new additional module will commence on 1 February 2020.

EXCEPTION: New clauses for Product safety and quality culture- sites will be audited against these requirements from 1 February 2021.

Should you have any questions regarding the transition process don't hesitate to contact us at

info@qmscert.com

For the new version of the Standard you can also be informed by BRCGS web page in the following link:

<https://www.brcgs.com/brcgs/packaging/packaging-materials-issue-6/>