

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 - Paris, France

## Synergy 22000 gains full recognition from GFSI

*Synergy 22000 was benchmarked against the GFSI Guidance Document and met with full recognition, it was announced today.*

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 - The Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), managed by The Consumer Goods Forum, announced today that the Synergy 22000 scheme, managed by Synergy Global Standardisation Services, based in Switzerland has been recognised by the Global Food Safety Initiative Board of Directors.

The Synergy 22000 scheme is based on the internationally recognized standard ISO 22000 and the new ISO 22002-1 standard (or the equivalent Synergy PRP 22000 standard, for the same scope), and integrates additional auditing protocol required to meet GFSI requirements. GFSI has recognized Synergy 22000 for the scopes of the processing of animal and vegetal perishable products as well as processing of long shelf life ambient products (ref. ISO/TS 22003 Food Chain Category Scopes C, D, E and L {biocultures, additives and vitamins only}).

This benchmarking process has been completed using internationally accepted food safety requirements, based on industry best practice and sound science, which are developed through a consensus building process by key stakeholders in the food supply chain. These requirements can be found in the GFSI Guidance Document Version 5, which is freely available for download on [www.mygfsi.com](http://www.mygfsi.com).

The Synergy 22000 scheme is now working with accreditation bodies to provide accreditation for certification bodies against the scope of ISO 17021 and ISO 22003. Unaccredited certificates will be issued against the Synergy 22000 scheme until full accreditation status has been achieved by the certification bodies.

Jürgen Matern, Chairman of the Global Food Safety Initiative Board of Directors and Vice President, Strategic Quality Management, Metro AG said *"The recognition of Synergy continues to demonstrate the success of the GFSI benchmarking process to provide additional options for suppliers around the world."*

### About GFSI

The GFSI, managed by the Consumer Goods Forum, was set up in 2000 to pursue continuous improvement in food safety management systems, cost efficiency in the supply chain and, above all, safe food for consumers worldwide.

### About Synergy

Synergy Global Standardisation Services is an international neutral and independent organisation with a mission to draft and publish standards and schemes completing the national or international standards, according to market needs & initiatives.

Synergy 22000 Scheme\* has been drafted by an international expert group in accordance with the rules and procedures provided in the Synergy Standardisation Guidelines (downloadable for free on [www.synergy-gss.org](http://www.synergy-gss.org)).

## GFSI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## The Consumer Goods Forum

The Consumer Goods Forum is an independent global parity-based Consumer Goods network. It brings together the CEOs and senior management of around 650 retailers, manufacturers, service providers and other stakeholders across 70 countries.

The Forum was created in June 2009 by the merger of CIES - The Food Business Forum, the Global Commerce Initiative (GCI) and the Global CEO Forum. The Consumer Goods Forum is governed by its Board of Directors, which includes an equal number of manufacturer and retailer CEOs and chairpersons. Forum member companies have combined sales of EUR 2.1trillion.

The Forum provides a unique global platform for thought leadership, knowledge exchange and networking between retailers, manufacturers and their partners on collaborative, non-competitive issues. Its strength lies in the privileged access it offers to the key players in the sector as well as in the development and implementation of best practices along the value chain.

It has a mandate from its members to develop common positions on key strategic and practical issues affecting the consumer goods business and to focus on non-competitive collaborative process improvement. With its headquarters in Paris and its regional offices in Washington, D.C., Singapore, Tokyo and Shanghai, The Consumer Goods Forum serves its members throughout the world.

**For more information, please visit [www.mygfsi.com](http://www.mygfsi.com)**

**This press release is also available on the website <http://www.theconsumergoodsforum.com>**

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