Guidance

S9.91 - Transition Procedure GMP+ Feed Certification scheme 2020

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GMP+ International

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1. Introduction

This document describes actions and time frames regarding the transition of the certification from the current GMP+ Feed Certification scheme into the new, re-structured GMP+ Feed Certification scheme 2020 (hereafter "GMP+ FC scheme 2020"). It identifies time frames and actions for all parties involved.

2. Scope of this transition

The new scheme documents will be more to-the-point, clearer and harmonized. It is not a goal as such to change the content, but due to the change of structure, different wording and because GMP+ FC scheme 2020 is based on ISO22000:2018, some changes are inevitable. Some small elements have therefore been added to the GMP+ FC scheme 2020 scheme and the new structure is based on the relevant process steps of the applicable scope.

The current GMP+ Feed Certification scheme consists of two modules, the Feed Safety Assurance module (FSA) and the Feed Responsible Assurance module (FRA). This structure will remain the same. The transition procedure is applicable for the whole GMP+ Feed Certification scheme, that means both modules.
Please be aware that this transition procedure aims to support the GMP+ community with the transfer from the current GMP+ Feed Certification scheme to GMP+ FC scheme 2020. However, it cannot replace careful reading of the new normative documents. For guidance, a Cross References table and a List of changes outlining which modifications to the structure have been made, will be provided on the GMP+ International website.

3. GMP+ Scopes and Database

The GMP+ scopes of certification and the activities covered by each of those scopes will be described in F0.3 *Scopes for certification*. It is not our intention to add additional scopes to GMP+ FC scheme 2020. Scope names will be streamlined in all scheme documents and the GMP+ Company Database. This will be finalized at the moment of publication of the official GMP+ FC scheme 2020.

4. Time frames

There will be a transition period of three years and six months. This means that two GMP+ Feed Certification schemes will be simultaneously valid for this period. Directly after the publication of the official GMP+ FC scheme 2020, all involved parties will have a preparation/implementation phase of six months to identify and integrate the applicable scheme documents of GMP+ FC scheme 2020 into their quality management system. After six months, there follows an implementation phase of three years. After three years, all parties involved must have implemented GMP+ FC scheme 2020 into their quality management system. As from the end of the implementation phase all activities must have been transferred to GMP+ FC scheme 2020 (darker green part of the table).

Publication of GMP+ Feed Certification scheme 2020 Start of the preparation phase	Implementation phase	End of implementation phase
01.03.2021 – 01.09.2021	01.09.2021 – 01.09.2024	After 01.09.2024
Certification for: GMP+ Feed Certification scheme 2010	Certification for: GMP+ Feed Certification scheme 2010 or, GMP+ Feed Certification scheme 2020 Note: Companies together with their Certification Bodies can decide to certify earlier with the GMP+ Feed Certification scheme 2020	Certification for: GMP+ Feed Certification scheme 2020

5. Guidance for implementation

5.1. GMP+ International

GMP+ International will conduct the following activities/deliverables:

a. Investigation of relevant accreditation of CB's.
b. Align the transition procedure with Accreditation Bodies.
c. Applying for EA-acceptance.
d. Sharing a draft version of GMP+ FC scheme 2020 with the GMP+ community.
e. Inform the GMP+ community (update the website, newsletters, guidance/support documents, joint meetings, road shows,).
f. Adapting checklists.
g. Updating IT Tooling.
h. Re-structuring the examination part GMP+ database.
i. Review if the examinations are up to date.
j. Training GMP+ International auditors.
k. Publication of GMP+ FC scheme 2020.
l. Provide a Cross References table and List of changes on the GMP+ International website.

5.2. Accreditation Bodies

Accreditation Bodies can continue their scheduled accreditation activities because GMP+ FC scheme 2020 resulted in limited changes. It is mainly focussed to on making requirements more to the point, clearer and more uniform. GMP+ FC scheme 2020 is based on ISO22000:2018.

GMP+ International will offer the new scheme documents for information and updated version dates.

a. The accreditation of the involved Certification Body has to be adapted as followed:
    - CB's already having an accreditation accordingly ISO/IEC 17021 and ISO/TS 22003 (hereafter ISO17021/22003) can be transferred by means of desk study or an office audit as from publication of the official GMP+ FC scheme 2020 (preparation phase and/or implementation phase).
    - CB's not having an accreditation accordingly ISO17021/22003 can only be transferred by means of an office audit on site as from publication of the official GMP+ FC scheme 2020 (preparation phase and/or implementation phase).
b. One witness audit for auditors is not required for ISO17021/22003 accredited CB's. But it is for CB's who don't have an accreditation in accordance with ISO17021/22003. In this case the witness audit must be performed for the stage 1 & 2 audit.

5.3. GMP+ accepted Certification Bodies

GMP+ accepted Certification Bodies can provide/perform the following activities:

a. Identify the applicable requirements/reference of the relevant scheme documents and the cross reference as published on the GMP+ International website.
b. Integrate GMP+ FC scheme 2020 into the quality management system of Certification Bodies.
c. Develop an implementation plan for the Accreditation Body for adapting (if applicable) the accreditation certificate. Note: Certification Bodies must have brought the applicable scopes under accreditation in accordance with ISO17021/22003 not later than the last date of the implementation phase.
d. Ensuring that the GMP+ certificate can be issued continually with the accreditation logo.
e. Training of involved auditors and personnel.
f. Perform an internal audit according to GMP+ FC scheme 2020.
g. Inform clients about scheme changes.
h. Where applicable, cooperate with the GMP+ certified companies for transition arrangements.
i. Closing nonconformities established through the old scheme.
j. Performing an audit for transition.
k. After a successful audit, a new GMP+ certificate will be issued.

5.4. GMP+ certified companies

GMP+ certified companies can provide/perform the following activities:

a. Subscribe to GMP+ newsletters.
b. Identify the applicable requirements/reference of the relevant scheme documents and the cross reference as published on the GMP+ International website.
c. Integrate GMP+ FC scheme 2020 into the quality management system of the GMP+ certified companies.
d. Training of involved personnel.
e. Perform an internal audit according to GMP+ FC scheme 2020.
f. Closing nonconformities established through the old scheme.
g. Where applicable, cooperate with the Certification Body for transition arrangement/audit.

5.5. (Registered) Consultants

The registered consultants can provide/perform the following activities:

a. Subscribe to GMP+ newsletters.
b. Identify the applicable requirements/reference of the relevant scheme documents and the Cross Reference table as published on the website of GMP+ International.
c. Integrate GMP+ FC scheme 2020 into the quality management system of the (registered) consultants.
d. Adapting Quality Manual to be provided to companies.
e. Training of involved personnel.
f. Liaise with companies to implement the relevant scheme documents into their system.

6. GMP+ audits, GMP+ certificates and certification agreements

6.1. GMP+ audits

As mentioned above, GMP+ FC scheme 2020 is focussed on making the requirements more to the point, clearer and more uniform. The new GMP+ FC scheme 2020 is based on ISO22000, therefore limited items have been added. Because of this, GMP+ certified companies can be transferred as from the date of publication of the official GMP+ FC scheme 2020 by means of the following audits:

a. Announced surveillance audit.
   All GMP+ FC scheme 2020 requirements must be verified. In order to do so, the Certification Body can decide to reduce the sample.
b. Unannounced surveillance audit.
   All GMP+ FC scheme 2020 requirements must be verified. In order to do so, the Certification Body can decide to reduce the sample.

c. Re-certification audit.
   All GMP+ FC scheme 2020 requirements must be verified.

The assessment of companies must take place according to CR 2.0 *Assessment and Certification and/or CR3.0 Assessment and Certification of additional scopes.* As from the date of publication of the official GMP+ FC scheme 2020 (light green part in the table) new companies can be certified in accordance with the current GMP+ Feed Certification scheme or in accordance with GMP+ FC scheme 2020. After six months after publication of the official GMP+ FC scheme 2020 (middle green part in the table) new companies must be certified in accordance with GMP+ FC scheme 2020. After three-and-a -half years after publication of the official GMP+ FC scheme 2020 (dark green part in the table) all companies must be certified in accordance with GMP+ FC scheme 2020.

6.2. Certificates

Once a company has been audited (all types of audits) and certified in accordance with GMP+ FC scheme 2020, a new certificate must be issued. In the case of a surveillance audit, the validity of the GMP+ certificate will remain the same (the validity cannot be extended).
Related to the display of the accreditation logo on the GMP+ certificate the following applies:

a. GMP+ FC scheme 2020 under accreditation but the Certification Body not yet accredited for the relevant scope – no accreditation logo.
b. GMP+ FC scheme 2020 under accreditation and the Certification Body accredited for the relevant scope – accreditation logo can be displayed as follows:
   - a certificate with accreditation logo can be issued directly or,
   - a certificate with accreditation logo can be issued as a result of the first audit accordingly GMP+ FC scheme 2020,
   - a certificate with accreditation logo must be issued once the new certification cycle starts.

A certificate with accreditation logo can never be issued with a retroactive date replacing the existing certificates. Issuing a new certificate with accreditation logo cannot extend the validity of the certification cycle.
GMP+ C6 certificates with accreditation logo will remain valid until:

- The Certification Body is accredited for the relevant scope(s) under GMP+ FC scheme 2020 (ISO17021/22003),
- The moment that GMP+ International withdraws the GMP+ C6.

6.3. Certification agreements

It is our intention to bring GMP+ FC scheme 2020 under accreditation in accordance with ISO/IEC17021:2015 and ISO/TS22003:2013 and therefore the GMP+ standard descriptions and the minimum obliged audit times will change. As a consequence, certification agreements must be adapted. This can be done by issuing a new certification agreement or an addendum linked to the existing certification agreement. All certification agreements must be adapted at the latest before the first audit conducted in accordance with GMP+ FC scheme 2020 (ISO17021/22003).

7. After care

7.1. Audit time reduction

The minimum obliged audit times is a key element in GMP+2020. In accordance with Annex 2, B2.2. of the ISO/TS22003:2013 audit time reduction can be applicable. Throughout the years, audit time reduction was issued in the following way:

a. Audit time reduction issued by GMP+ International before December 16th 2016 remains valid until transfer to GMP+ FC scheme 2020.
b. Audit time reduction maximum 30%, issued by Certification Bodies as from December 16th 2016, remains valid.

7.2. Changes after implementation

GMP+ International has developed the new normative documents with the utmost care, together with the relevant working groups, but there is always a possibility that an omission has occurred in the transfer. If this is the case, GMP+ International, together with the involved working groups, will repair the occurred omission. Two types of omission have been identified:

a. Omissions which can have a direct negative effect on feed safety will be repaired by an executive decree as soon as possible (within 2 and/or 3 working days).
b. Omissions which has no negative effect on feed safety will be listed on the GMP+ International website and implemented within nine months after publication of GMP+ FC scheme 2020.

At GMP+ International, we believe everybody, no matter who they are or where they live, should have access to safe food.

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