

ISO/TC 34/SC 17 Food Safety Management Systems

Worth knowing

ISO 22002 series; Prerequisite programmes on food safety

Enquiry	Reply
<p>What is ISO/TS 22002 series?</p>	<p>ISO 22002 Technical Specifications (TSs) are guidance documents, not intended for certification, but intended for assisting an organization in establishing, implementing and maintaining prerequisite programmes (PRP) in accordance with ISO 22000. PRPs are the basic conditions and activities that are necessary to maintain a hygienic environment throughout the food chain suitable for the production, handling and provision of safe end products and safe food for human consumption.</p> <p>Although the use of the TSs is not mandatory for complying with the requirements in ISO 22000, deviations there from (exclusions or alternative measures) need to be justified and documented, when TSs are used as reference for the PRPs implemented.</p> <p>TSs of the ISO 22002 series are primarily developed for (a) specified food chain category(ies) such as farming, manufacturing, and transportation or as sector specific TSs subordinated the TS of the relevant food chain category (e.g. TS for aquaculture subordinated a TS for farming).</p>
<p>I am implementing ISO 22000:2018 standard in my company which is manufacturing milk products. One auditor informed that while establishing PRPs we need not consider ISO/TS 22002-1 which is recommended in the standard.</p> <p>He informed that we have to consider only aspects specified in Clause 8.2.4 of ISO 22000:2018.</p> <p>I am confused now.</p> <p>Is it correct to say when establishing PRPs, that we can consider ISO/TS 22002-1 and aspects specified in 8.2.4 of the standard.</p>	<p>According to ISO 22000:2018 clause 8.2.3 “When selecting and/or establishing PRP(s), the organization shall ensure that applicable statutory, regulatory and mutually agreed customer requirements are identified. The organization should consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) the applicable part of the ISO/TS 22002 series;b) applicable standards, codes of practice and guidelines.” <p>So the ISO/TS 22002-1 which in this case is the applicable part of the ISO/TS 22002 series, could be considered when establishing PRPs. However, it needs to be clear, that the standard uses the word “should” which means that it is not mandatory to use these documents however the organization developing/implementing these programs, are encouraged to consult them.</p> <p>Clause 8.2.4 has mandatory items to consider when establishing PRPs and that is why the word “shall” is used in this case.</p>

