

ISO/TC 34/SC 17 Food Safety Management Systems

Worth knowing

ISO 22003: Food safety — Part 1: Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems

ISO 22003: Food safety — Part 2: Requirements for bodies providing evaluation and certification of products, processes and services, including an audit of the food safety system

Enquiry	Reply
<p>How to interpret ISO/TS 22003 when it comes to classifying an activity in the category table? It relates to the production of casein plates for use on cheese (at the crust). These casein plates (edible although they are not intended to be digested) derived from milk constituents; they are printed such as labels, and then becomes a component of the whole cheese. We do not know whether to classify them as: Perishable food of animal origin (C1), Packaging for food (I) or Biochemicals (K)?</p>	<p>Casein labels' are produced from casein and other food-grade materials, printed and stored at ambient temperature. They are used as a label, however, because they are affixed to the cheese surface during pressing and/or turning of the cheese. Thus, they become part of the surface of the cheese. Therefore, they may be consumed. The material integrates into the food and becomes part of the food. Also, when cheese is sold the label becomes part of the net-weight. Thus, these labels could be considered as cheese or food.</p>
<p>I have a doubt regarding the interpretation of the standard ISO/TS 22003-2 regarding the food chain categories defined in Table A.1 of the standard. To produce processed meat products such as sausages, burger meat, mortadella and the like, where are we</p>	<p>It is our understanding that processed meat products such as sausages, burger meat, mortadella and the like, will fall under Sub-Category C1 as these are in general perishable products that their main ingredient is meat. Food additives and similar items in the product recipe do not change the classification. If the product is produced using soy protein in replacement of meat, then this classifies the product under plant product and not animal product.</p>

supposed to categorize it considering that these products may fall in either of the two below subcategories on first impression without further deliberation on basis of ingredient composition of these products which may or may not contain other components (of other than animal products) such as plant origin components and/or food additives etc. Interpretation of the sub-categories based on status of processing such as cooked, semi-cooked or raw (ground or meat cuts) could also be deliberated, if these are of any significance to the categorization.

Clarification on the interpretation intended by the committee on this would be helpful in correct identification of our certified client products as to which category it would fall under. Is it based on pure meat composition or is it based on it being classified as a meat-based product irrespective of the components. Further, non-animal components could vary from very low composition such as spices/salt to very high composition such as soya proteins.

Note: For the sake of clarity, the concept of perishability with respect to temperature storage condition is well understood. It is of the understanding that the products described as examples (sausages etc) are manufactured in factory to be sold as prepackaged products sold in retail chains.

<p>Scope: Preparation and Dispatch of Food (Vegetarian and Non-Vegetarian) for On-Board Catering in Trains As per ISO/TS 22003 and my understanding, the aforementioned scope falls under Food chain category : C – Food Manufacturing. Sub category: CIII- Processing of Perishable Animal & Plant Products (Mixed). Reason: since this is a Base Kitchen and supplying food to different Trains and the trains will be serving this food to the passengers. (not direct) Therefore, it is a manufacturing scope and will fall under Subcategory C. E is only applicable when the actual catering services are delivered to the consumers. However, I find disparity in the understanding on the correct subcategory for the above case. Appreciate if your could help me in this matter.</p>	<p>Yes, this is category C. As this is an organization supplying food for a category E organization (Trains or the like). Sub-categories are: CII – vegetarian/vegan food and CIII – mixed food (meat and veggies mixed) and finished RTE food</p>