
BNQ'S RELEASE

AMENDMENTS TO CERTAIN SQF FOOD SAFETY CODES

EDITION 9

To all clients certified or to be certified by the BNQ according to the SQF reference

On September 20, 2021, SQFI introduced four modifications (amendments) following the revision of the codes by the GFSI. These amendments to the Edition 9 codes shall be implemented and audited as soon as **October 4, 2021**. You shall be aware of these changes by consulting the SQFI's website, and by downloading the four amendments to the Edition 9 of the SQF Food Safety Codes applying to your product category(ies): <https://www.sqfi.com/resource-center/edition-9-code-amendments/> and implement the applicable changes in your SQF system.

You will find hereinafter a brief description of amended elements:

1. **Medical screening.** Applies to personnel hygiene and welfare for the following elements of the codes: 3.3.1.1; 9.3.1.1; 10.4.1.1; 11.3.1.1; 12.4.1.1; 13.3.1.1; 17.3.1.1. These elements shall include a medical screening procedure for all employees, visitors and contractors who handle exposed product or food contact surfaces.
2. **Approved Suppliers.** The requirement applies to 2.3.3 in the primary food safety codes and to 2.3.4 in all other codes, except for storage and distribution. All approved supplier registers shall include the supplier contact details. All approved and emergency suppliers shall be registered.
3. **Multi-site program.** Sub-sites within an SQF multi-site program can only operate in one or more of these food sector categories – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 26.
4. **Application of Agricultural Chemicals.** The requirements of 7.7.3.2, 5.7.3.2, 8.7.3.2 and 18.8.4.2 apply to the person(s) applying chemicals as well as to the person making decisions on chemical application.

All audits scheduled from October 4, 2021, will include the abovementioned amendments.

If you have specific issues or questions, do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Geneviève Roy, who is in charge of the SQF program, at 418-652-2238, Extension 2327, for the Québec region clients, and at 1-800-386-5114, Extension 2327 (toll free) or via email at genevieve.roy@bnq.qc.ca.

Best regards to our dear clients.