

STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF ZIMBABWE EXTENDS SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO FOOD SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

SADCAS is proud to announce the accreditation of the Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ) - Certification Services in the scope of Certification of Food Safety Management Systems sub-scope to ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015. This makes SAZ - Certification Services, situated at 66, Craster Road, Southerton, Harare, Zimbabwe, the first certification body to be accredited by SADCAS in the Food Safety Management Systems sub-scope. Through this accreditation, the SAZ - Certification Services has been granted the unique accreditation number **FSMS-CERT 001**, Food Safety Management Systems sub-scope. The certificate which was issued on 22 April 2021 expires at the end of the current accreditation cycle on 26 November 2022.



SAZ Certification Staff

The newly accredited sub-scope is described by the following levels of the International Accreditation Forum Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (IAF MLA) structure:

- Level 4: ISO/TS 22003:2013 Food safety management systems– Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems (Categories C, E and M).
- Level 5: ISO 22000:2018 Food safety management systems - Requirements for any organization in the food chain.



This brings to four (4) the accredited sub-scopes of SAZ including:

- Quality Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-3), QMS (ISO 9001);
- Environmental Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-2), EMS (ISO 14001); and
- Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (ISO/IEC TS 17021-10), OHSMS (ISO 45001).

The SADCAS Certification Bodies Accreditation Scheme (CBAS) was established in June 2010 and is operated in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011 the standard that specifies requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies. SADCAS was admitted as a signatory to the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) Multilateral Recognition Arrangement in the Main Scope Management Systems Certification (ISO/IEC 17021-1,) Sub-scope Quality Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-3), QMS (ISO 9001:2015) achieved in November 2019. Subsequently in May 2020, SADCAS extended its scope of recognition to the sub-scope environmental management systems and occupational health and management systems. Hence the accreditation certificates issued by SADCAS on most of the accreditation schemes offered by SADCAS are internationally recognized except the product certification bodies accreditation scheme (CBAS-Prod) and the management systems certification body accreditation scheme (CBAS-MS) in the sub-scope food safety management systems (FSMS).

The assessment of SAZ was undertaken between September and November 2020 by a team of assessors and technical experts competent in assessing certification of Food Safety Management Systems. The assessment techniques employed by the assessment team included review of documented information, interviewing personnel, vertical assessments and witnessing the auditors undertaking audits at the premises of the certification body clients. The accreditation of SAZ to the FSMS sub-scope was processed dually in accordance to the SANAS/SADCAS Twinning Partnership Agreement to enable SAZ to enjoy international recognition. Both SANAS and SADCAS Accreditation Certificates were issued and the SANAS accreditation will be withdrawn as soon as SADCAS achieves international recognition in the sub-scope FSMS.

The Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ) is the National Standards Body for Zimbabwe, formed in 1957 and incorporated in 1960. The SAZ mission is to develop national standards and promote their use for socio-economic development through among other things:

- preparing and publishing Zimbabwe National Standards
- promoting an understanding of standards requirements by offering standards-based training,
- providing technical services for the testing of manufactured goods and raw materials and calibration of equipment and
- encouraging the use of Zimbabwe Standards by operating Certification / Registration schemes.

The SAZ Certification Services department has the mandate to provide management system and product certification services to the Zimbabwe market and beyond.

To date SADCAS has accredited eight (8) certification bodies and has another four (4) applications at different stages of the SADCAS accreditation process.

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