



# IFS

## International Food Standard

Standard for auditing retailer (and wholesaler) branded food products



[www.food-care.info](http://www.food-care.info)

# Why the IFS implementation?



- For the retailer: many requirements of the retailers and audited topics are common
- For the supplier: multiplicity and repeated audits from the retailers for a major part of the requirements

 **Creation of a consistent and common evaluation system for all companies supplying retailer branded food products.**

# IFS: Standard for auditing retailer (and wholesaler) branded food products



- No new requirements
- Mutual acknowledgement
- Audits performed by external and qualified auditors (third part audits)
- Maintenance of specific retailer requirements
- Possibility for quality managers of the retail industry to visit suppliers for further investigations

# IFS version 4 Overview



**Part 1**  
IFS Protocol

P 1: Annex 1  
Product categories

**New**

**Part 2**  
IFS Standard

P2 Annex 1  
Criteria summary

P2 Annex 2  
Definitions

**New**

**Part 3**  
Requirements  
for certification  
bodies and  
auditors



**Part 4**  
IFS Report

**New**

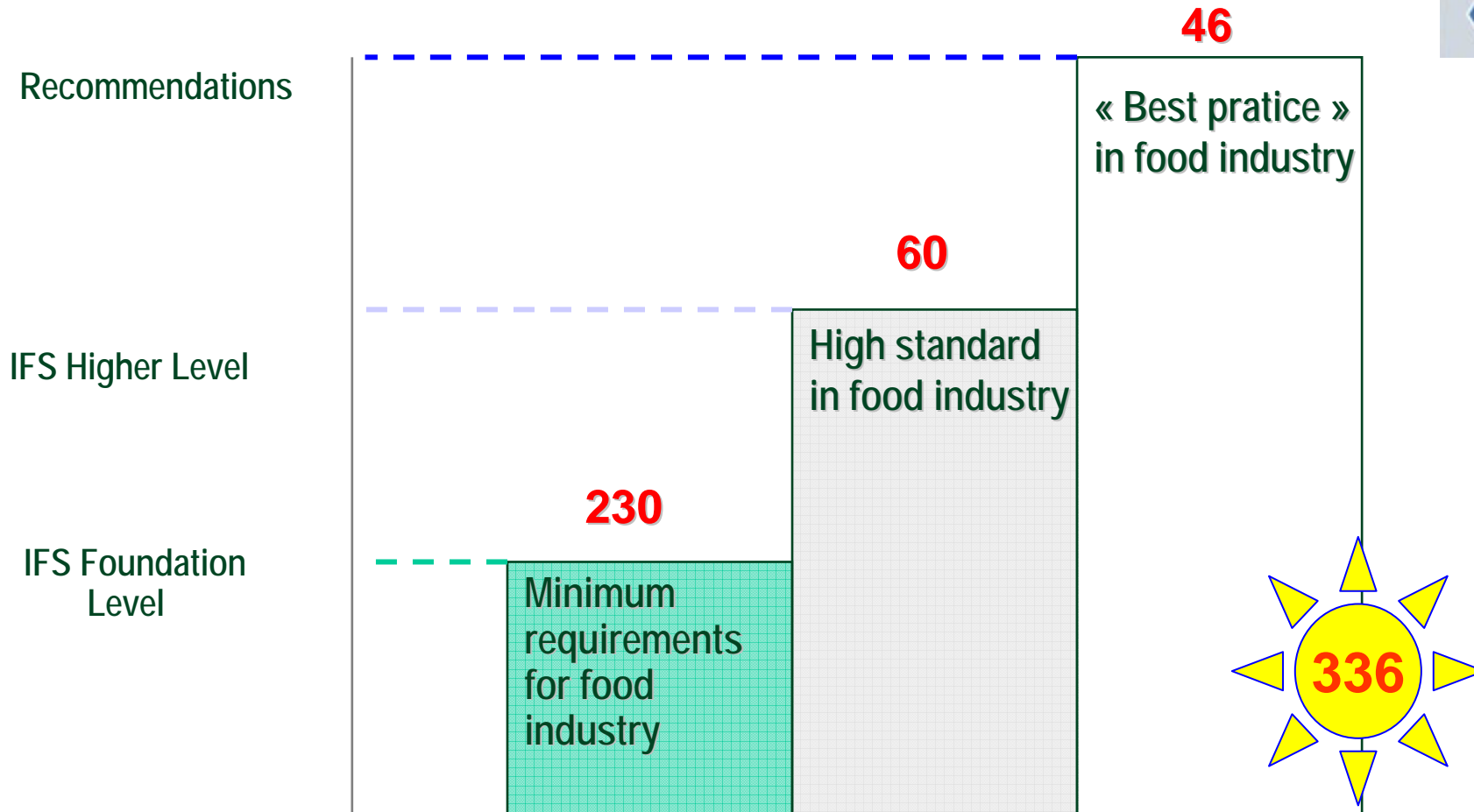


**IFS version 3 versus 4**

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# Part 1: IFS version 4

## Level of IFS Requirements



“Challenge” of the auditee for continuous improvement

# Part 1: IFS version 4

## Audit notification



**Initial Audit:** first audit performed by a certification body.  
Recommended Duration : 1,5 to 2 days

**Follow up Audit:** audit focussed on checking the implementation of corrective actions (max. 6 months after the initial audit). Scheduled when the initial audit does not allow a certificate to be issued.

**Surveillance Audit:** complete audit performed at a frequency that depends on the level achieved at the last audit (12 to 18 months after the initial audit).

# Part 1: IFS version 4

## IFS Evaluation



### A, B, C, D



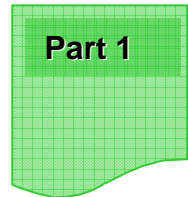
Result	Explanation	Foundation level	Higher level	Recommendation
<b>D</b>	<b>The criterion is not implemented</b>	<b>0 point</b>	<b>0 point</b>	<b>no point</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>Small part of the criterion is implemented</b>	<b>5 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>no point</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Almost full compliance</b>	<b>15 points</b>	<b>7 points</b>	<b>no point</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Full compliance</b>	<b>20 points</b>	<b>10 points</b>	<b>5 points</b>

### NA not applicable

When a criterion is not applicable, the auditor gives a short explanation.

# Part 1: IFS version 4

## IFS Evaluation



**Major non-conformance: linked to the process, the product**

- substantial failure or non-conformance which can lead to a serious health hazard
- major non-conformance has to be related to an audit item. Decision will be done by the auditor.

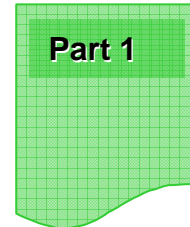
Result	Explanation	Foundation level
D	Item does not conform	<b>15%</b> of possible total amount will be subtracted



# Part 1: IFS version 4

## IFS Evaluation

**K.O.**



Result	Explanation	Awarded scores
A	Full compliance	20 points
B	Almost full compliance	15 points
C	Small part of the criterion is implemented	No « C » rank possible
<b>K.O. (=D)</b>	The criterion is not implemented	<b>50 %</b> of possible total amount will be subtracted

HACCP Analysis.....



Management Commitment .....



General Traceability.....

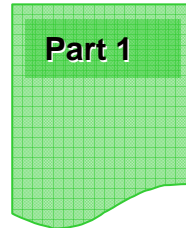




Corrective actions.....



# Part 1: IFS version 4

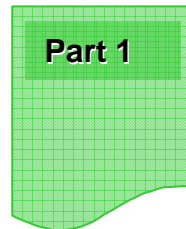
## Scoring and Certificate awarding: K.O.





Non-Conformity	Status	Action auditee	Certificate
<b>K.O.</b> 	Not approved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- corrective actions</li><li>- a new initial audit has to be scheduled</li></ul>	

# Part 1: IFS version 4

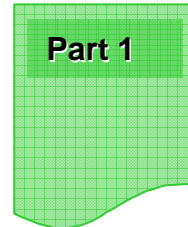
## Scoring and Certificate awarding: MAJORS





Non-Conformity	Status	Action auditee	Certificate
<p>&gt; 1 Major and/or ≤ 75% of the criteria are fulfilled at foundation level</p> 	<p>Not approved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- corrective actions</li> <li>- a new initial audit has to be scheduled</li> </ul>	

# Part 1: IFS version 4

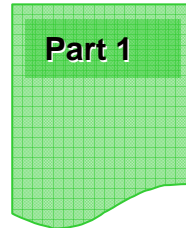
## Scoring and Certificate awarding: MAJOR




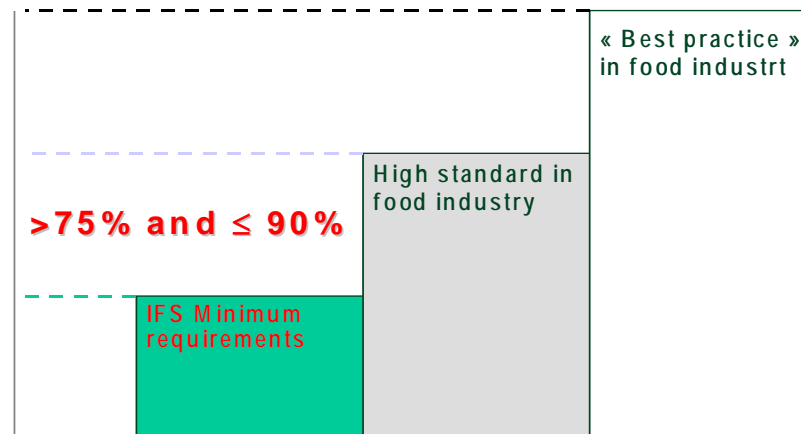
Non-Conformity	Status	Action auditee	Certificate
<p><b>1 Major and &gt; 75% of the criteria are fulfilled at foundation level</b></p> 	<p><b>Preliminary approved</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- send action plan within 2 weeks of receiving the preliminary report</li> <li>- <b>Follow-up audit</b> max. 6 months after the audit date</li> </ul>	

# Part 1: IFS version 4

## Scoring and Certificate awarding: FOUNDATION LEVEL

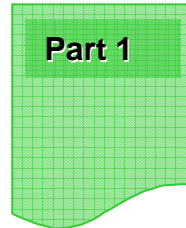



Non-Conformity	Status	Action auditee	Certificate
Total score at foundation level is $> 75\%$ and $\leq 90\%$	Approved at foundation level	- send action plan within two weeks of receiving the preliminary report	Foundation level 

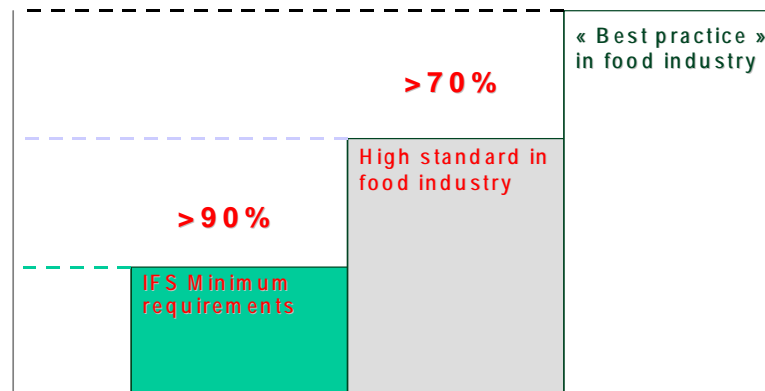


# Part 1: IFS version 4

## Scoring and Certificate awarding: HIGHER LEVEL

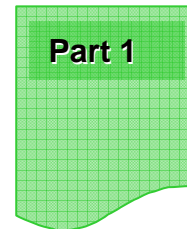


Non-Conformity	Status	Action auditee	Certificate
Total score at foundation level is > 90 % and at higher level > 70 %	Approved at higher level	- send action plan within two weeks of receiving the preliminary report	Higher level 



# Part 1: IFS version 4

## Audit frequency based on the achieved level

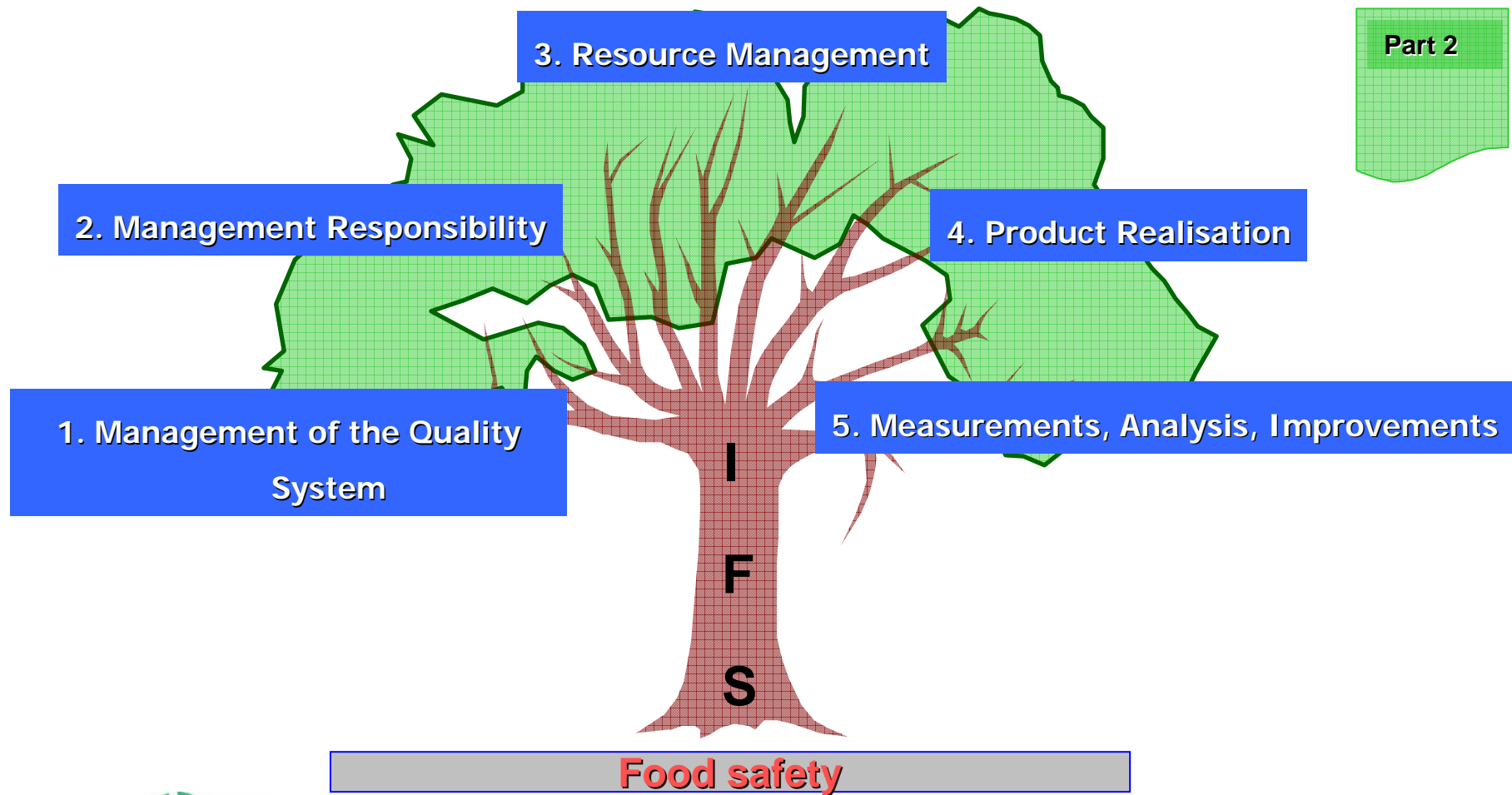
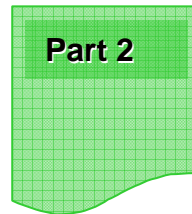


Level of certificate	All products	Seasonal products
Foundation IFS level	12 months	12 months
Higher IFS level (first)	12 months	12 months
Higher IFS level (twice confirmed)*	18 months	12 months

\* Loss of « IFS Higher level certificate » generates a return to the initial audit frequency process.

# Part 2: IFS version 4

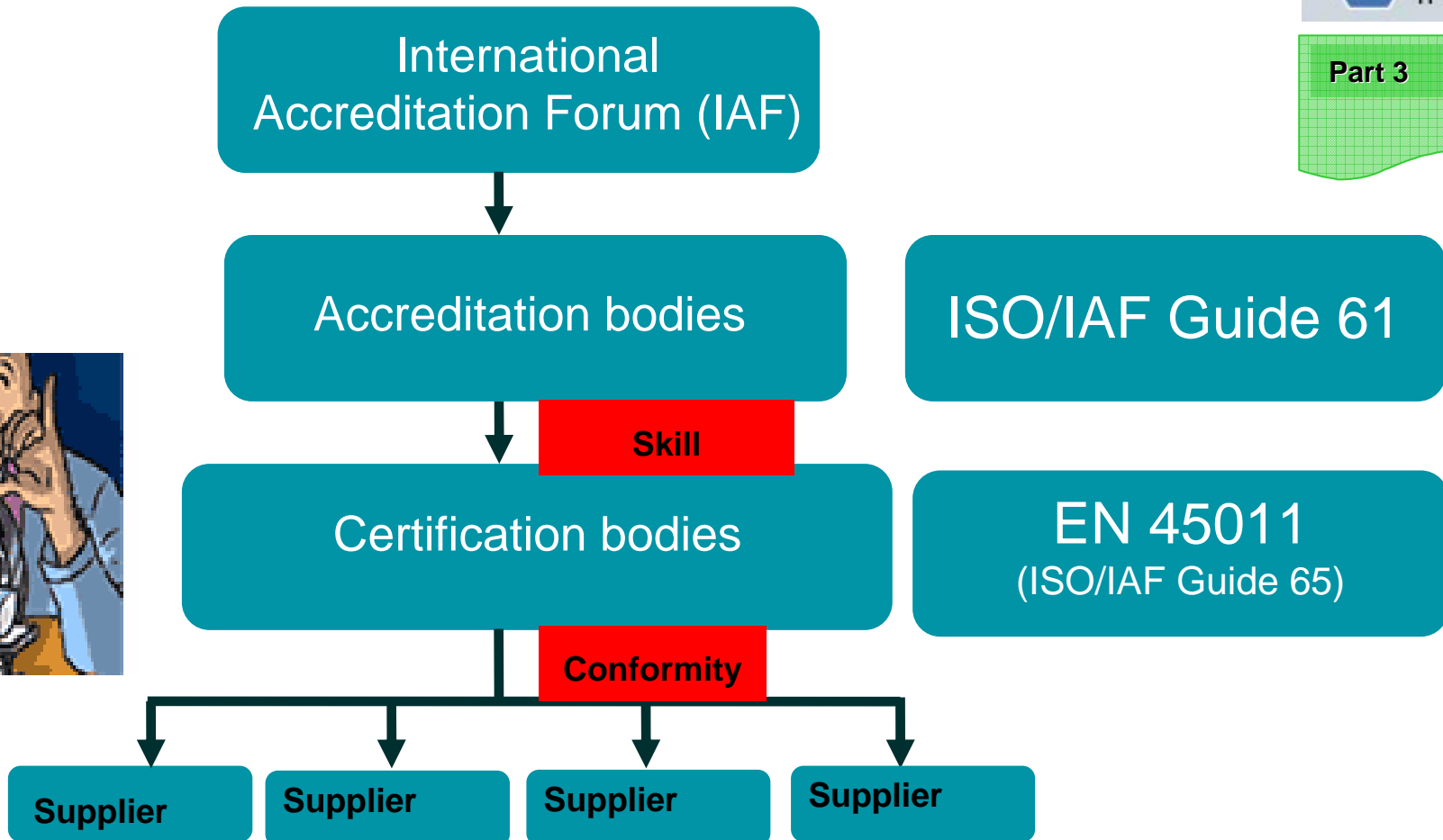
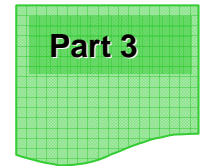
## 5 Technical Chapters





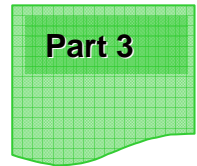
# Part 3: IFS version 4

## Certification Bodies – approved IFS auditors



# Part 3: IFS version 4

## Requirements for the Certification Bodies and Auditors



- Accreditation EN 45011 against IFS
- Contract with the IFS owners (HDE and FCD)
- Auditors from an EN 45011 on IFS accredited certification body only
- Auditor competence

Education and Experience	IFS auditor	Remarks
Formal Education	X	
Audit Experience	X	Minimum 10 audits in the last 2 years
HACCP training	X	HACCP training
Quality Management knowledge	X	1 week study
Sector Qualification	X	Minimum 2 years professional experience in the sector or minimum 10 audits in this sector
Professional Knowledge against the IFS	X	Recorded participation to the In-House IFS training session and passed written and oral examination

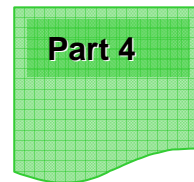
# Part 4: IFS version 4

## IFS Report

### Part 1: Audit overview

### Part 2: Service overview

- Global results
- Observations regarding KO and Major non-conformances
- Graphic overview for all chapters
- Presentation of chapters 1 to 5 (including: non-conformances, chapter summary, graphic overview per chapter)
- **Action plan to be undertaken by the auditee**
- Detailed audit report



# IFS auditportal [www.food-care.info](http://www.food-care.info)



## Certification Bodies:

- integrate the audit report and the certificate in the database
- they are the only ones who have the autorisation to modify and to add
- **Restricted Access to the reports and certificates they redact**

## Suppliers:

- restricted access to their own data / audits
- **Unlock the access for retailers to their own data**

## Retailers (and Wholesalers):

- **access to the reports only when the access has been unlocked by the concerned supplier**



# Thank you for your attention!

If you have further questions to the IFS please do not hesitate to contact us.

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