



# FSSC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

## ANNEX 1: SCOPE STATEMENTS

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## 1. PURPOSE

This Annex describes the rules for the scope statements on the FSSC Development Program conformity statements. There are general rules for all categories, and specific rules for individual categories including examples.

## 2. SCOPE

The food chain categories and related supply chain sectors that fall within the scope of the FSSC Development Program are defined in Part 1 of the Program documents. **Manufacturing (sub)categories are assigned based on the end product produced by the organization.**

## 3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The conformity scope statement shall meet the following general requirements:

- 1) **The scope statement shall not be misleading.**
- 2) It shall be a clear, **concise**, and unambiguous statement that describes the **main types of process/activities, product types and/or services** that are supplied/undertaken by the conforming organization. **The scope shall be within the scope of the Program** and shall have been assessed by the CAB. The assessment report shall contain **sufficient objective evidence to support the full scope** of activities in the scope statement.
- 3) The FSSC Development Program is based on the food safety system (FSS) assessment and is not a product approval. Therefore, listing all individual products/processes or services is not recommended. **Applied technologies that impact food safety shall be mentioned (e.g., sterilization, pasteurization, fermentation, drying) but not all individual process steps (e.g., receiving raw materials, storing raw materials, mixing, proofing, baking).**
- 4) **The type of packaging shall be mentioned when it has a vital function in food safety (e.g., vacuum packaging, MAP packaging) and/or when there is a potential impact on food safety (e.g., glass).**
- 5) Not include promotional statements or claims, **as per ISO 22003-1:2022, clause 9.1.2.3.** Claims being any message or representation, which is not mandatory under legislation, and which suggests that the **product** or service has particular characteristics. Examples are health claims, nutritional claims, origin claims, free-from claims (e.g., allergen free claims), organic, quality claims. Where an organization makes such claims, they shall be investigated when they are part of the FSS but **shall** not appear in scope statement.
- 6) Brand names are not allowed as this might suggest product certification.
- 7) Be in English, but another language may be added **in addition** (e.g., the native language of the country of the conforming organization).
- 8) Not include subcontracted or outsourced processes outside the organization's legal responsibility **and control. Where products or processes are subcontracted or outsourced, the relevant auditable requirements relating to outsourced processes shall apply and objective evidence shall be recorded in the assessment report.**
- 9) Not include company names.
- 10) Not contain terms such as "etcetera" or "etc".

- 11) Shall not include activities such as trading, broking. Trading and brokering is outside the scope of the FSSC Development Program.
- 12) Not include reference to products, processes or services related to non-food/feed (e.g., shall not refer to pharmaceutical and self-medication products, tobacco, cosmetics, household and personal care products, ink\*); This does not include ink that is applied directly to a foodstuff e.g., ink used to date code the shell of an egg, as this ink may be included.
- 13) Not contain exclusions for activities, processes, products, or services from the scope when those activities, processes, products, or services can have an influence on the food safety of the end products as defined by the legal responsibility of the organizations' activities (ISO 22003-1:2022 9.1.2.3); Where permitted exclusions apply, this shall be motivated in the report and the conformity statement shall reference the exclusion as part of the scope statement; the scope statement on the conformity statement shall indicate "Exclusions apply: (excluded product(s)/process(es)/service(s))".
- 14) Not contain Development and Design as a separate activity. These activities are only allowed when part of a processing or manufacturing activity covered by the scope of conformity and part of the same legal entity.
- 15) Storage, warehousing, & distribution, delivery, supply, and dispatch operations (on or off site), may only be added to the manufacturing scope statement (categories BIII, C, D, I, and K) in cases where these are:
  - dedicated to the company's own production;
  - included within the assessed food safety system; and
  - part of the same legal entity (i.e., owned by the organization).

Where third-party Logistic Services are provided (including logistic services provided to a subsidiary or sister company), category G is applicable.

- 16) The word "sales" is not allowed: A manufacturer will always have sales activities, as they will need to sell their products (the primary reason for being in business). However, there are no provisions or specific requirements in the food manufacturing standard for the sales process; therefore, it cannot be assessed and cannot appear in the scope statement. The same requirement applies to words equivalent or similar to sales, such as marketing, exporting, and or importing.

## 4.4 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The food chain categories and related supply chain sectors that fall within the scope of the FSSC Development Program are defined in Part 1 of the Program documents.

### 4.1 FOOD CHAIN CATEGORY BIII - PRE-PROCESS HANDLING OF PLANT PRODUCTS

Pre-process handling of plant products includes plant products that are not transformed.

The scope statement shall contain the type of plant product handled.

## EXAMPLES

Conformity scope statement	Acceptable	Comments and recommendations
Sorting, packing and chilled storage of grapes.	Yes	

## 4.2 FOOD CHAIN CATEGORY C - FOOD MANUFACTURING

- 1) Where products are intended for specific vulnerable consumer groups, this shall be indicated in scope statement (e.g., baby food, infant formula, food for special medical purposes, food for special dietary needs, etc.).
- 2) For pet food production, the type of pet food shall be mentioned (e.g. dry, wet, treats) as well as the target animal group (e.g. dogs, cats).
- 3) By-products from the food manufacturing process can be included, provided they are mentioned in the scope statement with the addition “for use in the feed industry” or equivalent wording. This only applies where a small amount of waste products (fit for animal feed) from the food manufacturing process are supplied as a raw material for animal feed.

## EXAMPLES

Conformity scope statement	Acceptable	Comments and recommendations
Production of eggs.	Partial	In this case it would be better to describe the actual activities like sorting and packing of eggs.
Production and packing of vegetable oil.	Partial	For a company that produces oil (pressing, extraction) <b>the term production can be appropriate</b> , however for a company that only mixes and fills oil into bottles the term production as such may be misleading and incorrect.
Production (pressing, winterization, filtering and filling) of olive oil.	Yes	In this case it is clear what is meant by production, and although generally not recommended here it is necessary to add processing steps.
Development and design of ready-to-eat meals.	No	Development and design are not allowed as a separate activity. Such activities are only allowed in addition to a processing or manufacturing activity covered by the scope of conformity and part of the same legal entity.
Production of bakery products (croissants, bread rolls, cakes, and brioche).	Yes	<b>The scope statement shall not only mention bakery products; the main types of products shall be included.</b>
Production of soft drinks packed in cans and glass bottles, and the production of carbon dioxide as an ingredient for these beverages.	Yes	Scope statement correctly describing two types of manufacturing activities <b>(Category C and K).</b>



Conformity scope statement	Acceptable	Comments and recommendations
<b>The blow molding of plastic bottles from preforms and the bottling of carbonated soft drinks.</b>	Yes	Blow molding <b>from preforms can</b> be included in the Food scope if part of the same production process.
<b>Production of pet food.</b>	No	Missing is the type of food and target animal group(s).
<b>Manufacturing of dry pet food for cats.</b>	Yes	

### 4.3 FOOD CHAIN CATEGORY D - ANIMAL FEED PRODUCTION

- The target animal group shall be mentioned (e.g., cattle, chicken...)

#### EXAMPLES

Conformity scope statement	Acceptable	Comments and recommendations
<b>Production and transport of dry feed mixtures for cattle.</b>	Yes	Allowed if the transport process is owned by the company.

### 4.4 FOOD CHAIN CATEGORY E - CATERING/FOOD SERVICE

#### EXAMPLES

Conformity scope statement	Acceptable	Comments and recommendations
<b>Production of ready to eat hot and cold meat and vegetables dishes served at the hotel restaurant</b>	Yes	
<b>Production of food for flight catering: including cold dishes, decorated cakes.</b>	No	This is a manufacturing scope statement <b>under category C</b> .  Category E is only applicable when the actual catering services are delivered to consumers.
<b>Reheating and serving onboard airline meals to passengers</b>	Yes	Included as the meals are being reheated and served for on-site direct consumer consumption.
<b>Production of wraps with different fillings at a food truck, serving food at festivals.</b>	Yes	
<b>Manufacturing of meals at a central kitchen and service at several locations.</b>	No	Offsite catering kitchens and products of industrial kitchens not offered for immediate consumption are included under category CIII.
<b>Production of food for events such as weddings and conferences. Prepared off-site and delivered to the event location.</b>	No	

## 4.5 FOOD CHAIN CATEGORY FI - RETAIL, WHOLESALE AND E-COMMERCE

- 1) Category FI is the category for retail and wholesale, and manufacturing processes are not included.
- 2) In-shop activities that only serve to give pre-prepared food a final process step are allowed in scope (e.g., **reheating of ready-to-eat foods**, cutting of meat or fish) and shall be mentioned in the scope statement.
- 3) It is required to specify which type of activities are conducted (i.e., wholesale or retail).
- 4) **Wholesale activities are organizations that sell goods in large/bulk quantities to other industries and consumers.**

Category FI includes physical storage of products.

### EXAMPLES:

Conformity scope statement	Acceptable	Comments and recommendations
<b>Wholesale of canned meat and vegetable products.</b>	Yes	
<b>Washing, cutting, packaging and wholesale of fruit and vegetables.</b>	No	Washing, cutting, and packaging are manufacturing scopes.
<b>Retailing of chilled and frozen packed vegetables, meat, fish, and dairy products to end consumers, including the following in-shop activities: cutting and packing of cheese and fish.</b>	Yes	
<b>Retailing of a supermarket assortment to end-consumers (meat and meat products, fish, beverages, dry products, vegetables and fruits, bakery products, deep frozen products).</b>	Yes	
<b>Wholesale of packaging materials for food use.</b>	Yes	
<b>Retailing of ambient and chilled foodstuffs via the internet</b>	Yes	This is an E-commerce activity.

## 4.6 FOOD CHAIN CATEGORY G - TRANSPORT AND STORAGE SERVICES

A scope statement in category G shall as a minimum contain the following elements:

- Type of service provided (e.g. transport, storage, cross docking),
- The type(s) of product handled (e.g. food product group, packaging materials, animal feed),
- The conditions of the activity (ambient, chilled, frozen) when food and/or feed is stored, and/or transported,
- For transport activities means of transport (e.g., road, air, water, railway, bulk, containers).

**EXAMPLES**

Conformity scope statement	Acceptable	Comments and recommendations
<b>Ambient storage and road transport of food.</b>	Yes	
<b>Frozen storage of meat and meat products.</b>	Yes	
<b>Storage of fruit and trade in fresh pineapples.</b>	No	Trading activities are outside the scope of the FSSC Development Program. Only the storage activity can be assessed against the Program.
<b>Arranging of transport, licenses, and export documents.</b>	No	This is not allowed as the organization does not provide physical storage and/or transport.



## 4.7 FOOD CHAIN CATEGORY I - FOOD PACKAGING MANUFACTURING

The type of material(s) (i.e., plastics, paper and board, metal, glass) shall be mentioned in the conforming scope statement, followed by the text “intended for use in the food (or feed) industry”.

### EXAMPLES

Conformity scope statement	Acceptable	Comments and recommendations
<b>Development, press and blow extrusion, gravure printing, laminating, slitting, and converting of flexible packaging for medicinal, chemical- technical, food and hygiene products.</b>	No	Only packaging materials for food products are allowed.
<b>Manufacturing of plastic laminated tubes for food industries.</b>	Yes	
<b>Manufacturing of wooden sticks for the use in lollipop sticks and ice-cream.</b>	Yes	
<b>Manufacture and printing of cardboard boxes to be used in the food industry.</b>	Yes	
<b>Production of preforms from resin and blow molding of plastic bottles.</b>	Yes	The in-line production of bottles using resin to produce a preform and followed by the blowing of bottles is considered a packaging activity and shall additionally be covered by a packaging scope.
<b>The production of paper cups for use in the food industry and intended for sale as part of the food product.</b>	Yes	The intended use and the food industry are included. Paper cups sold only to retail is not allowed.

## 4.8 FOOD CHAIN CATEGORY K - PRODUCTION OF (BIO) CHEMICALS

The scope statement shall refer to the fact that these products are intended to be used in the food or feed industry.

Where the product produced is legally classified as a food additive in the country of manufacture, then it shall be classified as Category K. If it is legally classified as a food ingredient, and not a food additive, then it shall be classified as Category C (e.g., CIV for ambient stable food ingredient).

### EXAMPLES:

Conformity scope statement	Acceptable	Comments and recommendations
<b>Production of food-grade solid CO<sub>2</sub> (Dry Ice).</b>	Yes	
<b>The manufacturing of liquid flavors for use in the beverage industry.</b>	Yes	
<b>Manufacturing of cleaning agents to be used in CIP systems in the food industry.</b>	No	Cleaning agents are not within the scope of the FSSC Development Program.
<b>Production of food gases (Nitrogen, Oxygen, Argon, Nitrogen Dioxide, Carbon Dioxide, Hydrogen) and gas mixtures for use in the food industry.</b>	Yes	
<b>Production of preservatives, antioxidants, and anti-caking agents intended for use in the feed industry.</b>	Yes	