



## **McCloud's Frequently Asked Questions about the Global Food Safety Initiative**

### **1. What is the Global Food Safety Initiative or GFSI?**

*GFSI stands for Global Food Safety Initiative and the purpose of this organization is to promote food safety while establishing a "benchmark" for audit standards. One of the desired outcomes is to reduce the need for duplicate and differing audits. In recent years, the food processing industry and structural pest management industry has become overwhelmed by the vast number of audits and differing audit standards to which they must comply. The foundation of the GFSI program is called the Guidance Document which contains the criteria from which successful standards or food safety "schemes" are drafted. Food safety groups can apply to GFSI and get their standards approved. Several food safety groups have approved standards under GFSI, including British Retailers Consortium (BRC) and Safe Quality Food Institute (SQF).*

### **2. What standards or "schemes" have met the criteria in GFSI's Guidance Document?**

*The two main GFSI based standards being used in the United States are BRC and SQF. There are 2 other groups: Dutch HACCP and International Food Standards (IFS) which have been granted GFSI approval but are less commonly used in the U.S.*

### **3. Who can perform BRC and SQF audits?**

*There is a certification and training program for auditors. Anyone who passes the certification program can complete the audits. This includes auditors from AIB.*



**4. Are pest management firms required to become GFS, SQF or BRCI certified or accredited before they service GFSI audited accounts?**

*Although there is a certification process for auditors, there is no certification or accreditation program for pest management firms or pest management service technicians. There seems to be some confusion regarding this point. Auditors must be accredited but not service providers.*

**5. How do the standards compare to other 3<sup>rd</sup> party auditor standards?**

*See chart below for a comparison of the pest control portions of the standards. In GFSI programs, audited facilities must show proof of correcting deficiencies before a certificate is issued. For a complete listing of the pest management audit comparisons, go to: [www.mccloudservices.com/](http://www.mccloudservices.com/) Technical Resources*



<b>Category</b>	<b>AIB</b>	<b>NSF</b>	<b>Silliker</b>	<b>GFSI: BRC, SQF, FSI</b>
<b>Rodents</b>				
<i>Interior Rodent Traps</i>	<i>Both sides of exterior doors/ 20'-40' interior perimeter/ Interior walls in sensitive areas</i>	<i>Traps on either side of doors leading to exterior. Other placements based on PMP recommendations</i>	<i>20'-40' apart along interior perimeter. Exterior doors protected by trap including 1 station between each dock door. Interior walls in sensitive locations to be protected. NPMA matrix can be used to adjust device needs</i>	<i>Positioning not specified- must have adequate coverage.</i>
<i>Exterior Equipment. Building Perimeter</i>	<i>50'-100' along foundation walls</i>	<i>Bait must be secured and "floated" inside station. Station placements based on pest potential</i>	<i>Approximately 25-50; apart. Must have adequate coverage for control. NPMA matrix can be used to adjust device needs.</i>	<i>Positioning not specified- must have adequate coverage for control</i>
<i>Inspection Frequency for Interior Rodent Equipment</i>	<i>At least weekly</i>	<i>Weekly/ more frequent if activity observed</i>	<i>At least twice monthly</i>	<i>Frequency determined by risk assessment and documented</i>
<i>Inspection frequency for exterior equipment</i>	<i>At least monthly</i>	<i>Bait stations- monthly More frequently if active</i>	<i>At least monthly</i>	<i>Frequency determined by risk assessment and documented</i>
<i>Bait permitted inside</i>	<i>Yes, with restrictions</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes, with restrictions</i>



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<b><i>Insect Light Traps</i></b>				
<i>Insect Light Trap Placement</i>	<i>Not within 10 feet of food contact surfaces, exposed product, packaging, and raw materials in processing or storage areas. Position not to attract insects to the facility.</i>	<i>Appropriate distance from food.  Between 2-5 feet above ground</i>	<i>Electrocutors: not within 30 feet of exposed food or not within 10 feet of packaged food.  Pulsed/ glueboard: not above exposed food.  Position 2-5 feet above ground.</i>	<i>“Correctly placed” and an appropriate distance to protect product, or alternate equipment is required.</i>
<i>ID of Captures</i>	<i>Identify types of insects captured and their quantities.</i>			
<b><i>Pheromones</i></b>				
<i>Program Required?</i>	<i>Yes, where stored product pests are a concern.</i>			
<i>Inspection Frequency</i>	<i>Regular inspection but frequency not indicated.</i>			<i>Frequency based on risk assessment document.</i>



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<b>Insect Control</b>				
<i>Inspections</i>		<i>At least weekly</i>		<i>Frequency based on risk assessment and documented</i>
<b>Employee Requirements</b>				
<i>Training</i>	<i>GMP training required</i>			
<i>Certification</i>	<i>Licensed or trained and supervised per State requirements</i>	<i>Licensed or trained in-house staff</i>		<i>Licensed or trained in-house staff.</i>
<b>Program Management</b>				
<i>Program Review</i>	<i>At least annually</i>	<i>At least annually</i>		<i>At least annually and sooner in the event of an infestation.</i>
<i>Pest Trending</i>	<i>Yes</i>		<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Documentation</i>				
<i>Format</i>	<i>Electronic OK</i>			
<i>Contract/ Written Program</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes and signed by client</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>MSDS/ Labels</i>	<i>Yes/ Electronic OK</i>	<i>Yes, retained for one year past activity</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Permitted Materials List</i>	<i>Yes and signed by site contact</i>			
<i>Pest sighting log</i>	<i>Yes and quarterly trending</i>			
<i>Equipment Maps</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes- dated and initialed regularly as proof of service</i>	<i>Yes- updated annually</i>	<i>Yes- signed and authorized</i>
<i>Service Reports</i>	<i>Document corrective action</i>	<i>Document corrective action</i>	<i>Document corrective action</i>	<i>Document corrective action</i>
<i>Corrective Action Log</i>	<i>Advised</i>	<i>Advised</i>	<i>Advised</i>	<i>Advised</i>