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For Immediate Release

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FSSC 22000 Receives Re-Benchmarking Approval by GFSI

Food Safety Standard Certification 22000 (FSSC 22000) has been successfully re-benchmarked by the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) against its revised Guidance Document Sixth Edition.

The Netherlands; February 2012; The Foundation for Food Safety Certification is pleased to announce that **FSSC 22000**, the independently owned, ISO-based food safety management system (FSMS) certification scheme has been successfully re-benchmarked by the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) against the revised GFSI Guidance Document Sixth Edition. The re-benchmarking of **FSSC 22000** by GFSI represents a continuing effort by industry in working together to raise the global standards for food safety systems.

Fons Schmid, Chairman of the Board of Stakeholders of **FSSC 22000** announced this week, "The Board of Stakeholders of **FSSC 22000** is very pleased to receive GFSI-recognition of **FSSC 22000** against the Sixth Edition of its Guidance Document and is grateful to everyone who has been directly or indirectly involved in the extensive benchmarking procedure. **FSSC 22000** is happy to work with GFSI and to meet their requirements to maintain the highest standards of food safety certification."

The revision of the GFSI Guidance Document to Version 6 represents greater rigor and transparency of the food safety certification process. GFSI is raising the requirements set for the management of the certification schemes and is extending the scopes across the supply chain which is in accordance with **FSSC 22000** in taking a scope specific approach to eventually cover all sectors of the food supply chain.

"**FSSC 22000** was developed to meet the growing needs of the international food industry" Mr Schmid added. "In a global market a transparent and consensus driven certification system is essential to provide industry, regulators and the general public with confidence of effective food safety management practices. Benchmarking against the GFSI standard is an essential cornerstone for **FSSC 22000** in its mission to provide a robust and internationally recognized standard for 3rd party certification across the entire supply chain".

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About FSSC 22000

FSSC 22000 is a robust, ISO 22000 based, GFSI recognized and globally accepted certification scheme for the assessment of food safety management systems (FSMS). Governed by a non-profit, independent foundation, **FSSC 2200** is the only GFSI benchmarked food safety certification scheme based on ISO 22000 which is derived by international consensus in the ISO process and used globally by both the public and private sectors across the entire supply chain. **FSSC 2200** can be integrated with other ISO management systems and provides a flexible, risk based global approach to drive continual improvement in food safety and provide confidence across the supply chain.

- **FSSC 22000** will be at the Global Food Safety Conference, Barcelona March 6th – 8th 2013
- **FSSC 22000** will be at the Food Safety Summit Exhibitor Showcase in Baltimore April 28th - May 3rd 2013

For further information please visit our website www.fssc22000.com or join us at LinkedIn or Twitter.