



January 17, 2017

To: All Current and Potential Foreign Suppliers of the Kroger Family of Companies

From: The Kroger Co., Corporate Food Technology Department

RE: Changes to Supplier Compliance Program

The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) law has introduced new regulations that have changed the way companies are managing supplier food safety compliance. The Preventive Controls for Human and Animal Foods, Food Safety Produce Rule, and the Foreign Supplier Verification Program (FSVP) regulations all have strict document guidelines that retailers and manufacturers must follow in order to ensure public safety. In response, Kroger has created a new Supplier Hub to house necessary supplier food safety and quality documents, replacing our lasta/Smartsources program. As part of this change, Kroger is proactively working toward a standardized, enterprise-wide food safety compliance program for the supplier community.

The planned Go Live for the new Supplier Hub portal is 1st quarter 2017. It will be rolled out in two phases:

- Jan – Apr 2017 Phase 1: Companies that provide product to the Kroger Family of Companies from foreign locations will be invited into the Hub to provide the necessary food safety documentation for all represented facilities (both foreign and domestic if applicable).
- May – Dec 2017 Phase 2: Remaining suppliers will be invited into the Hub in phases based on risk of product. During this phase, all other compliance information will also be requested in the Hub.

Having all documents in one location will assist Kroger in managing food safety compliance. Our updated foreign food safety requirements are in the attached document.

If you have any questions regarding these requirements, please contact our Supplier Engagement Group using the below email and phone numbers:

Email: suppliercompliance@kroger.com

US: 844-277-6165 (select option 2)

Outside US: +011 513-387-1140 (select option 2)

We thank you for your continued partnership with Kroger.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erin S Sharp".

Erin Sharp
Group VP Manufacturing
The Kroger Co.



FOREIGN SUPPLIER VERIFICATION PROGRAM POLICY – THE KROGER CO.

To supply the Kroger Family of Companies with products produced or manufactured outside of the United States, suppliers have to prove compliance to the Foreign Supplier Verification Program Rules put into place by the FDA's Food Safety Modernization Act signed into law in 2011.

All suppliers of products produced outside of the United States and directly negotiated to be sold to the Kroger Family of Companies need to be in compliance and maintain their compliance. The following documents are required to be provided to the Kroger Corporate Food Technology Department in order to be qualified as a Kroger supplier.

Copies of annual GFSI benchmarked certification and full audit report, including nonconformances and corrective actions, are required to be provided to the KrogerCo.

GFSI benchmarked certifications currently include the following benchmarked schemes:

- Primus GFS
- SQF Institute
- BRC Global Standards
- IFS International Featured Standards
- Global Aquaculture Alliance
- GlobalGAP
- FSSC 22000
- Global Red Meat Standard (GRMS)
- Canada GAP

Find more information about GFSI approved schemes at www.mygfsi.com

HACCP or HARPC or Food Safety Plan documents for each category of product and processing type supplied.

If suppliers are exempt from Foreign Supplier Verification Program rules, proof of compliance to the following FDA FSMA compliance regulations must be provided.

- FDA Preventive Control Rule
- FDA Produce Safety Rule
- FDA Low Acid Canned Food
- FDA Juice HACCP
- FDA Seafood HACCP

BRANDED SUPPLIERS that are importing products not exclusive to the Kroger Family of Companies are required to maintain their Supplier Vendor Agreement with The Kroger Co. which indicates adherence to all federal and state regulations, including the Foreign Supplier Verification Program rule. Documents may be requested on occasion and it is expected that they will be available within the limitations of the agreement and the law.