Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) Requirements for Suppliers of Ferrara Candy Company (Version Date: January 2016)

History of Ferrara's Decision

In July of 2015, Ferrara Candy Company's Food Safety & Quality Assurance Organization announced its GFSI compliance requirement for Ferrara's ingredient, packaging, and semi / finished good candy suppliers.

Why GFSI? Benefits of GFSI

Global Food Safety Initiative (also known as GFSI) is an industry-driven global collaborative platform to advance food safety. GFSI's mission is to provide continuous improvement in food safety management systems to ensure confidence in the delivery of safe food to consumers worldwide. For more information on GFSI, please visit www.mygfsi.com Ferrara Candy Company's supplier expectations are embodied in the requirements of GFSI audit schemes and are necessary with the changes in our industry from the growing demands of our consumers, customers and the Federal Government. The FDA Food Safety and Modernization Act of 2011 and GFSI based auditing standards are placing food companies in a position of responsibility for the actions of our suppliers.

Stage 1 – All ingredient, packaging, and purchased candy suppliers to Ferrara must meet a **GFSI compliance deadline of June 30, 2016.** For suppliers that have not initiated their GFSI audit scheme process, if the supplier can provide proof of strategy development services and audit service agreement which can provide estimated pre-audit or audit dates, **the compliance deadline will be December 31, 2016 subject to review and approval by the Ferrara Candy Quality Assurance team.**

Not all of the GFSI Bench-marked Food Safety certifications are acceptable to Ferrara Candy Company.:

Ingredient & Semi / Finished Good Candy Suppliers

Ferrara's acceptable schemes of GFSI	Version (as of January 2016)	Score/Grade
BRC Global Standard	Issue 7	Minimum Rating of B
FSSC 22000	Version 3	
SQF 7th edition	Level 3	Minimum score of 85

Packaging Suppliers

Ferrara's acceptable schemes of GFSI	Version (as of January 2016)	Score/Grade
BRC Global Standard	Issue 5	Minimum Rating of B
FSSC 22000	October 11 Issue	
IFS PACsecure	Version 1	
SQF 7th edition	Level 2 Non-food contact or 3 food contact	Minimum score of 85

Stage 2 – Choose the best scheme for your organization. Ferrara has partnered with Silliker (a division of Mérieux NutriSciences) to provide assistance to suppliers in achieving GFSI compliance. Please follow instructions on contacting Silliker on assistance. The supplier is responsible for calling and establishing a direct relationship with Silliker for strategy development and audit services.

Stage 3 – Prepare for the audit. All suppliers preparing for initial GFSI certification need to provide regular updates to Ferrara on the status of their certification.

Stage 4 – Selecting a certification company. If you need assistance in selecting a GFSI scheme or auditing body for your organization please contact Megan Fisch of Silliker.

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Stage 5 – Share GFSI certification with Ferrara in ICIX.

Questions: If you have any questions please submit your questions to: Tim.Murphy@FerraraUSA.com or Melissa.Tate@FerraraUSA.com or call +1.708.405.3184. If you need this translated to Spanish, please contact: Melissa.Velazquez@ferrarausa.com