

## Global Standard - Consumer Products Issue 2a

### Forthcoming Issue 2a to reflect the increasingly global nature of Consumer Products

Consumer product safety has been in the spotlight recently with high profile recalls of toys, toothpaste and computer batteries. Retailers are directly importing their "own brand" products from far and wide. Such issues mean more retailers are looking to use Global Standard – Consumer Products Issue 2a as part of their supplier approval process and to help in their continuing due diligence to demonstrate that they are supplying safe and legal goods. Demand for the Standard which is now accepted by various European retailers and as far afield as Australia has never been greater.

BRC will soon be issuing a revised Issue-2a. This version will expand the introduction, remove the UK specific references and update the worked examples. At the same time, BRC will be taking the opportunity to make minor

corrections to the text concerning the audits. Issue 2a is not a revision of the audit requirements. Companies already using Issue 2 are not obliged to purchase 2a and a document containing the changes will be provided on the BRC Global Standards website.

Issue 2a will have a new cover to match the new look of the new Food and Packaging Standards.

Implementation of The Global Standard - Consumer Products is also being aligned with the other Standards. Several Certification Bodies have now gained accreditation and BRC will soon be clarifying specific requirements for auditors concerning their qualifications, experience and compulsory BRC training. Auditors will need to be registered with BRC.

BRC is completely revising and updating their training courses for Consumer Products. There will be a 1-Day Introduction explaining the background

and benefits of the Standard and a 2-Day implementation course suitable for companies interested in certification as well as a 4-Day internal auditor course and a "Train the Trainer" programme to ensure all auditors are appropriately trained no matter where they are operating.

There is a lot going on around the Global Standard – Consumer Products Issue 2a so keep an eye on the website for news about Product Group Category Information, Industry Sector Guidelines and more.

**To find out more about the Global Standard – Consumer Products Issue 2a or to order your copies please visit [www.brcbookshop.com](http://www.brcbookshop.com)**

## Global Standards for Packaging issue 2 and Food Safety issue 5 Go Live.

After 6 months of training and preparation the new issues of the Food Safety and Packaging Standards go live from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. The new standards have both been very positively received at the numerous training sessions and supplier presentations which have followed the launch in January.

The Food Safety Standard has a much clearer format and increased emphasis on Management commitment and revised sections on foreign body

control, allergens and security reflecting the changes in food safety concerns. Whilst the packaging standard has been widened out to include consumer product packaging and a greater focus on packaging quality controls in addition to hygiene reflecting the main concerns of packaging buyers.

There has also been an intense training program for all auditors around the world using new training packages developed specifically by the BRC to ensure auditors fully

understand the changes to the standards. Auditors have also for the first time been required to sit an exam on the new standard and register with the BRC. These new initiatives are all part of a program for continuing to build confidence in the Certification process.

For more details of the changes to the standards please see [www.brcglobalstandards.com](http://www.brcglobalstandards.com)

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## The Storage & Distribution Standard Comes of Age

The most recent of the BRC suite of Standards the Storage and Distribution Standard has now completed the Accreditation process allowing Accredited Certification to be offered by 6 Certification Bodies, they are:

- CMI/NSF
- SAI Global/ EFSIS
- Micron 2
- LRQA
- Knight International
- Bureau Veritas.

The pilot program has been followed by the issue of a supplementary standard providing further guidance on the interpretation of the standard allowing this to be applied to transport operators working independently as well as providing more information for Storage operators.

The new found status for the standard adds to its credibility and will increasingly make this a yard stick for manufacturers when selecting contracted transport and distribution networks. For more details see [www.brcglobalstandards.com](http://www.brcglobalstandards.com)

# An update on BRC's activities in North America

The BRC's adventure into North America kicked off with a series of fact finding roadshows in early March 2008 with visits to leading retailers, manufacturers, trade associations and specifiers with the objective of raising the profile and awareness of the BRC and its series of Global Standards. Since those early days in March the BRC has been working very closely with a number of North American based certification bodies to develop:

- A series of roadshows (Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, Toronto)
- Webinars (online presentations commencing in May and running through to November 2008)
- BRC telesales personnel operating from Chicago to inform delegates about the roadshows and the webinars

- Have organised a series of BRC training courses from early June through to early December from the 1-Day Introducing the BRC Standard to the 4-Day Third Party Auditor training
- Media advertising in leading trade publications
- Attendance at the IFT 08 and IAFP 08 exhibitions, premier events for food safety professional
- Developed a six page brochure that has been distributed throughout North America
- Creating an Americanized version of the Global Standard for Food Safety – due to be published in July
- The newly created North American Technical committee met on June 11 to review the Standard's content

- Communications have been sent out via e-mail blasts and direct mail campaigns, over 10,000 pieces of communication material has been sent out
- Created a dedicated website at [www.brcnorthamerica.com](http://www.brcnorthamerica.com)
- Banner advertising has been added to the North American certification Body websites
- Attending a number of food safety conferences to communicate information about the Global Standard for Food Safety

**To find out more about the BRC's activities in North America please visit [www.brcnorthamerica.com](http://www.brcnorthamerica.com)**



So this is what Certification Scheme Manager Jon Revell from Bodycote does in his spare time. He reads the Global Standard for Food Safety Issue 5 on the ski slopes of the Canadian Rockies!! That's dedication for you!!

# An expanding BRC Technical Team.

The BRC has further strengthened the management team looking after the BRC standards with the recent appointments of Karen Betts as Compliance Manager and Mathew Perry Customer Support. Karen who has worked with the BRC on the development of the standards and guidelines will now have responsibility for working with Certification Bodies to ensure the integrity of the Certification Processes. Mathew provides a dedicated point of contact for enquiries and feedback from sites and Certification Bodies around the world. The new team now comprises:-

## David Brackston



Title: Senior Technical Services Manager

Role: David is responsible for managing the overall running of the BRC Food Safety and Storage & Distribution Standards. He is currently reviewing the management of relations with Certification and Accreditation Bodies and is the BRC representative for the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI).

## Karen Betts



Title: Compliance Manager

Role: Karen in this new role has responsibility for ensuring that the quality of audits and reports carried out by the Certification Bodies using the BRC Global Standards are of a consistent high standard and in accordance with BRC requirements.

## Geoff Spriegel



Title: Director of Global Standards and Technical Services

Role: To develop the suite of BRC Standards covering Food, Consumer Goods, Packaging and Storage and Distribution, and supporting infrastructure such as Certification Body performance and Training to ensure integrity in delivery of certification.

## Linda Crane



Title: Technical Services Manager

Role: Linda is responsible for the BRC Consumer Products Standard and all non-food related matters within the Technical Team.

## Matthew Perry



Title: Customer Service Co-ordinator

Role: Matthew provides customer support for Certification Bodies and users of the BRC Global Standards and general administration support for the Technical Team.

We now have a total of 102 ATPs in 33 countries. **The geographical location of ATPs is shown in the table below:**

| Country Base   | No. of ATPs | Country Base   | No. of ATPs |
|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Australia      | 3           | Ireland        | 3           |
| Austria        | 1           | Italy          | 5           |
| Belgium        | 2           | Malaysia       | 1           |
| Brazil         | 2           | Mexico         | 1           |
| Bulgaria       | 1           | Netherlands    | 2           |
| Chile          | 7           | New Zealand    | 1           |
| China          | 5           | Poland         | 1           |
| Costa Rica     | 1           | South Africa   | 2           |
| Czech Republic | 1           | Spain          | 2           |
| Denmark        | 1           | Sweden         | 1           |
| Ecuador        | 1           | Switzerland    | 2           |
| Egypt          | 11          | Thailand       | 5           |
| France         | 3           | Turkey         | 1           |
| Germany        | 5           | United Kingdom | 22          |
| Guatemala      | 1           | Uruguay        | 1           |
| Hungary        | 1           | USA            | 3           |
| India          | 3           |                |             |

## Certificates Issued

You have all been extremely busy over the last year, particularly in the first three months of 2008, due to the publication of the two new Standards and on your behalf we have issued a record number of certificates totalling 1418 and made up as follows:-

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>How to Implement – Food Safety, Packaging Standards &amp; Storage &amp; Distribution</b> | <b>815</b> |
| <b>Third Party Auditor – Food Safety &amp; Consumer Products</b>                            | <b>248</b> |
| <b>Auditor update (Conversion) course – Food Safety and Packaging</b>                       | <b>295</b> |
| <b>HACCP</b>  | <b>60</b>  |

### Total Suppliers by Country (Top 10)

| Country        | Volume |
|----------------|--------|
| United Kingdom | 3625   |
| Italy          | 1304   |
| Netherlands    | 885    |
| France         | 803    |
| Spain          | 797    |
| Germany        | 575    |
| China          | 472    |
| Belgium        | 411    |
| Ireland        | 290    |
| Switzerland    | 279    |

### Food Suppliers by Country (Top 10)

| Country        | Volume |
|----------------|--------|
| United Kingdom | 2851   |
| Italy          | 1212   |
| Netherlands    | 761    |
| Spain          | 754    |
| France         | 735    |
| Germany        | 427    |
| China          | 389    |
| Belgium        | 375    |
| Ireland        | 252    |
| Switzerland    | 242    |

### Packaging Suppliers by Country (Top 10)

| Country        | Volume |
|----------------|--------|
| United Kingdom | 569    |
| Germany        | 115    |
| Netherlands    | 91     |
| New Zealand    | 75     |
| Italy          | 66     |
| France         | 43     |
| South Africa   | 39     |
| Ireland        | 32     |
| Spain          | 29     |
| Belgium        | 24     |

## Global Marketing Communications Plan for the BRC Global Standards Scheme

Below we have highlighted some of our activities and where we are planning to go by the end of December

| Marketing Activity                        | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>North America</b>                      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Roadshows                                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| IFT 08 Exhibition                         |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| IAFP 08 Exhibition                        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Trade Association Meetings                |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Technical Committee Meeting               |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| GMA Product Safety Conference             |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| North American Brochure                   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Training                                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Webinars                                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Media Advertising                         |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| <b>Rest of the World</b>                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| European Packaging Summit - Amsterdam     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| IOP Packaging Event - London              |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Global Food Safety Conference - Amsterdam |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Global Gap Conference - Cologne           |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Food Safety Conference - Pakistan         |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| HACCP - Australia                         |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Supplier Briefings - China                |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

## A Message from John Oakley

As the number of ATPs continues to grow, the number of training courses increases and the work of producing certificates become more arduous. It is essential that we are provided with accurate information after each course and also that there is swift payment of your invoice to offer a fast "turnaround" of your certificates. Recently we have been receiving notification of courses in unauthorised formats with incorrect information and much of which is illegible. This has resulted in much wasted time and unnecessary work in re-issuing invoices and certificates.

Would you please ensure that all future course returns are **typewritten** on the relevant forms to enable correct issue of invoices and subsequent issue of certificates? The correct forms are:-

1. For all courses, except Third Party Auditor (four day) courses, please complete form **DAS170508**

2. For TPA courses complete form **TPAD170508**, the test results sheet **TPATR170508** and the delegate assessment form **TPADA170508**. All these returns should be sent, preferably attached to an E-mail, directly to John Oakley. If you need further clarification please contact John Oakley [Oakley@joaonline.co.uk](mailto:Oakley@joaonline.co.uk)

### Details on website

We still do not have details of everyone in the dedicated page of the BRC ATP Website. Don't miss the opportunity to be contacted for training courses, send us a photograph and short profile in the format that you see on the website. [www.brcatp.com](http://www.brcatp.com)

## What's New?

### The 2009 Approved Training Provider and Certification Body Conference

**Dates for your Diary** – Wednesday 28, Thursday 29 and Friday 30 January 2009, location London. Venue, agenda and other details will be published soon.

### New BRC Training Course dates published

The new July to December 2008 BRC training course dates are now published on [www.brctraining.com](http://www.brctraining.com). In addition the BRC has added a range of courses from the British Safety Council on Health & Safety and Environmental Management.

### BRC to publish new and updated Guidelines

The BRC is currently in the process of developing a number of new and updated sector specific Guidelines to support the Global Standards, topics include:

- Traceability
- Complaint Handling
- Internal Audit
- Pest Control
- Foreign Body Detection
- Fresh Produce
- Cookware

In addition to the above Guidelines the BRC is developing a Guideline to assist in the interpretation of the clauses of the Global Standard for Food Safety Issue 5. This Guideline will be published in early autumn 2008.