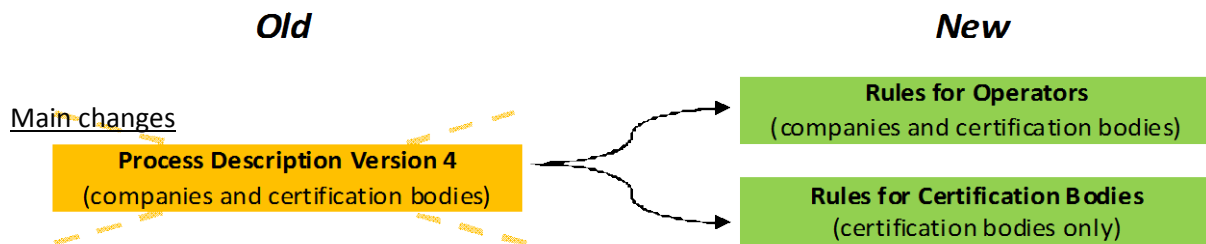


New FAMI-QS Certification Rules

A few weeks after the publication of the new Code and Guide, FAMI-QS now publishes the new version 5 of the rules for certification. With this publication, the former Process Description changes its name and is divided into two separate documents:

- **Rules for Operators** (Version 5)- to be implemented by companies and certification bodies
- **Rules for Certification Bodies** (Version 5) – to be implemented by certification bodies only

The so-called document Process Description will be obsolete and no longer valid from 01/01/2010.



Apart from the new format of the documents, FAMI-QS includes new provisions regarding audit time calculation, approval of subcontractors, consequences of non-conformities, source assurance of incoming materials and crisis management, among others. Furthermore, some of the requirements are now better defined, and external references (ISO documents, legislation...) as well as the checklist have been updated. A *Power Point* presentation indicating the main changes in the documents is attached to this e-mail.

Consultation of documents (click on the link below):

- FAMI-QS Rules for Operators V5
- FAMI-QS Rules for Certification Bodies V5
- FAMI-QS Process Description V4 (not valid from 01/01/2010 onwards)
- Track changes: Rules for Operators and Rules for Certification Bodies

Transition policy to FAMI-QS Version 5

FAMI-QS has recently updated its documents and the result is:

- The FAMI-QS Code V5
- The FAMI-QS Guidance V5
- The Rules for Operators V5
- The Rules for Certification Bodies V5

There is a transition period for the updated FAMI-QS till 31/12/2009 to be implemented as follows:

- from 01/07/2009 to 31/12/2009: New certification, surveillance and re-certification according to both FAMI-QS Versions (4 and 5) is possible
- as from 01/01/2010: All new certification, surveillance and re-certification shall be according to FAMI-QS Version 5.
- certificates granted according to version 4 before 31/12/2009 should remain valid until 31/12/2012 the latest. Surveillance in this case shall be according to version 5 and operators should have the option to request a new certificate from their certification body for version 5 valid until the same date, should they want it.