

NSF 451 Traceable Down Standard

Brief Overview

Standard Owner/Certification Body Relationship

NSF International is an accredited standards developer that led the standard development process of NSF 451 *Traceable Down Standard*, by engaging key stakeholders in a consensus based process. NSF International oversees the auditors that conduct the visits to evaluate compliance to NSF 451. All applicable auditor credentials and qualifications are assured within NSF's scope of certification. To ensure traceability throughout the down supply chain (slaughterhouse to manufacturing location) NSF 451 requires demonstrated compliance to Textile Exchange, *Content Claim Standard* by the use of transaction certificates. The Traceable Down Standard has additional traceability requirements at every part of the chain. The entire process from standards development to product Certification will be accredited by an oversight body.

Audit Frequency

After the initial Certification, two annual surveillance audits are required during the three year Certification period. The surveillance audits will consist of a document review and an on-site audit of the finished good manufacturing facility and of the traceable down supply chain for strategically sampled farms, slaughterhouses, down processors and down wholesalers.

Site Visit Sampling

Industrial Scale Supply Chain

Entities	Standard Risk	High Risk
Parent farms	75%	100%
Hatcheries	100%	100%
Raising farms	75%	100%
Slaughterhouses	100%	100%
Processor	100%	100%
Wholesaler	100%	100%
Finished goods factory	100%	100%

Collector Based Supply Chain

Entities	Standard Risk	High Risk
Household Scale Producer	For 0-100 Households: 75% where locations are concentrated, 30% of households per town (min of 5) For 100+ Households: 75%	For 0-100 Households: 100% where locations are concentrated, 30% of households per town (min of 5)



	where locations are concentrated, 3 x the square root of households	For 100+ Households: 100% where locations are concentrated, 3 x the square root of households
Collector	75%	100%
Processor	100%	100%
Wholesaler	100%	100%
Finished goods factory	100%	100%

Risk Management

The following criteria will be considered for assessing the risk of force feeding and live plucking in the supply chain:

- Robust national animal welfare standards
- Enforcement of animal welfare standards
- Waterfowl species in question
- Known cases of live plucking/molt harvesting
- Known cases of forced feeding
- Size and formalization of the waterfowl industry
- The location has demonstrated compliance, through various audits
- Years of operation by the entities in the supply chain
- Timing in regards to the breeding cycle of the waterfowl

Parallel Processing

NSF 451 Traceable Down Standard does not allow for parallel production at the farms or slaughterhouses. This means that in a certified supply chain there cannot be farm or slaughterhouse entities with sites where live plucking or force feeding takes place.

Certified Customers to NSF 451

NSF is currently working with brands and down supply chains to conduct audits and document review to ensure compliance to NSF 451 Global Traceable Down Standard. Once there are products and sites certified to NSF 451 they will be listed on the NSF website, <http://www.nsf.org/certified-products-systems>.

Access to NSF 451 Global Traceable Down Standard

NSF 451 Global Traceable Down Standard is located on the NSF website, by following the link provided: http://www.nsf.org/newsroom_pdf/su_nsf-451_global_traceable_down_standard_watermarked.pdf

For more information on the Global Traceable Down Standard or on certification through NSF Sustainability, contact Phil Alexandrin at sustainability@nsf.org.