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DESCRIPTION OF THE COSTCO PROCEDURE

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If you should require any further information then please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be please to help you.

Please contact us via mail to <u>info.tncert@tuev-nord.de</u> or by telephone 0800 245 74 57 (Free-phone from within Germany) or +49 511 9986-1222 from abroad.

TÜV NORD CERT GmbH Am TÜV 1 45307 Essen Germany

www.tuev-nord-cert.com

This document has been approved according to CERT-401-VA-007. Details are available from the QM-Department.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COSTCO PROCEDURE

The rules and descriptions of service and performance regarding the COSTCO Food Safety & Quality Audit Expectations, (herein referred to as COSTCO) apply alongside our offer.

This performance description covers the following COSTCO audits:

- COSTCO GFSI Addition Requirements Checklists, combined with a GFSI Standard.
- COSTCO Food Safety Audits

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COSTCO Small Supplier Audits

1. CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE

1.1. Audit Preparation

The audit preparation serves to establish if the customer is ready for GFSI certification, along with having the COSTCO GFSI Additional Requirements portion included. (This would also be the case in the event a site requests the COSTCO Food Safety Audit, instead of the COSTCO GFSI Additional Requirements, or should it be determined a site only requires the COSTCO Food Safety Audit or COSTCO Small Supplier Audit only.)

The auditor may request a detailed document review be performed before the certification assessment, that would include the COSTCO GFSI Additional Requirements, but this will not impact the assessment time on site. Any deviations or non-conformities will be included in the overall assessment evaluation. i.e. any deviations and non-conformities that are identified must be counted as such in the certification assessment; it is not expected nor is it possible to carry out corrections before the assessment.

1.2. Audits

The task of the site during the audit is to demonstrate the application of its documented procedures in practice. For this purpose, all product groups and processes which are included in the scope of the GFSI certification, as well as any products or processes that are a part of the scope for the COSTCO GFSI Additional Requirements, must be running at the time of the audit. The same applies to sites that choose the COSTCO Food Safety Audit(One day Stand-Alone), rather than the GFSI audit combined with COSTCO GFSI Additional Requirements.

Following completion of the audit, the client will be informed of the results of the audit in the final meeting. The auditor can give an estimated score of the audit, but cannot give a final score. The results of the audit will be documented in the reports, and Non-conformities documented in an action plan. Consequently, NC's may still exist but are not subject to the final meeting or in the assessment report. The same submission date apply's t sites that select the COSTCO Food Safety Audit in leu of the combined GFSI certification combined with the Additional Requirements.

1.3. Recertification or Annual Audits

See section 1.2

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1.4. Award of Certificate

No secondary certificates are issued for any COSTCO related audits.

1.5. Final Report Submission

Final reports and certificates will be issued in accordance with the expectations for the particular GFSI standard being audit to. Similarly, final copies of the COSTCO reports will also be issued. However, the site must also understand and consent to the mandatory requirement of allowing TUV USA to provide copies of all applicable reports to COSTCO WHOLESALE, as referenced in the Service Offer. Failure to allow the transfer of this information may result in suspension with COSTCO.