

Malaysia to Implement Updated Halal Certification Procedure Manual, Halal Management System and Standards in 2021

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The population of Malaysia comprises predominantly residents of the Muslim faith. Hence, Halal food – food which have been handled and processed according to Hukum Syarak or fatwa, constitute a large part of the food industry in Malaysia and a vital consideration for stakeholders in this sector. This is especially important for foreign exporters of foodstuff into Malaysia to understand the necessary criteria in order to distribute their products within Malaysia that may be consumed by the Muslim community.

On September 28, Malaysia released [the second circular](#) related to Halal certification in 2020 ^[1]. [Malaysian Halal Certification Procedure Manual \(Domestic\) 2020](#), [Malaysian Halal Management System 2020](#), and Malaysian Standard 2019 will be implemented on January 1, 2021.

These documents are the main references for Malaysian halal certification, which contain **halal certification procedures, internal halal control requirements, and halal standards**. They are updated to improve the existing requirements, conditions, and standards and facilitate the halal audit and references of the competent authorities and applicants.

The *Malaysian Halal Certification Procedure Manual (Domestic) 2020* will replace the *Malaysian Halal Certification Procedure Manual 2014* for halal certification requirements for domestic product categories. And **shall also apply for halal certification requirements for overseas manufacturing** until the *Malaysian Halal Certification Procedure Manual (International)* is prepared and published.

The Manual contains general requirements for ingredients, products, menus and services, processing, storage, equipment and hardware, packaging, labeling and advertising, transportation and distribution, premises, employee, sanitation, employee facilities and welfare, training, halal management system, documentation and records, contract manufacturing; application conditions and criteria; product certification, and services; etc.

Please contact us for further assistance in updating the Halal system documentation in accordance with the new terms.

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