

CHOCOLATE | PRALINE | BISCUIT | CONFECTIONERY

Self-checking system and Self-checking Guide

Every food company is under legal obligation to (<u>clarification on self-checking at the FAVV/AFSCA website</u>) to have a Self-checking system in place (Good Hygiene Practices and based on HACCP principles).

A Self-checking guide is an aid to help companies devise their self-checking system.

For the chocolate, pralines, biscuits and confectionery sectors, Choprabisco has worked up a Self-checking Guide (G-022) of which the latest version was approved by the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain in October 2019.

The Self-checking Guide also serves as an audit reference for the certification and inspection bodies (OCI) which conduct audits with a view to the validation of the self-checking systems.

Companies that use the Choprabisco Self-checking Guide can have their self-checking system validated by one of the four independent certification bodies accredited to this end: Foodchain ID Certification, SGS Belgium, Tüv Nord Integra and Vinçotte (click here for the contact details).

The validation of a self-checking system by an OCI is not mandatory but it does come with substantial (financial) benefits:

- the annual fee companies pay the FAVV/AFSCA is 75% less than the basic rate if they have a validated self-checking system in place. The fee to be paid depends on the number of employees for instance, the fee for a company that has 10-19 members of staff is 3,000 euros and just 750 euros if such a company has a validated self-checking system. See FAVV/AFSCA 2023 annual fee rates (processing sector table).
- the audit may be combined with the audit of a commercial quality system, such as BRC, IFS, etc. which reduces the cost of the audit as opposed to individual audits.

Choprabisco members receive the Self-checking Guide G-022 free of charge. For food companies that are not members, the price of the Self-checking Guide is 300 euros, incl. 6% vat.

Companies which previously already bought version 1 or version 2, pay 70 euros - incl. 6% vat for version 3.

The price for consultants is 750 euros, incl. 6% vat.

The Self-checking Guide is available in digital form in Dutch and in French.

Click <u>here</u> for the table of contents and <u>here</u> for the order form.