

Dear Valued Supplier:

Your company has been identified as a key supplier to Sysco/Freshpoint and Sygma owned and operated companies. As a result of your valued partnership we would like to inform you of the new requirements as it pertains to the Sysco/Freshpoint/Sygma Good Agricultural Practices Program. The following changes outlined below will be enforced regardless of Brand or Label. These changes, once again, pertain to all high-risk fresh produce items further distributed and/or sold to Sysco owned companies. Enforcement of the changes outlined below will take effect January 1<sup>st</sup> 2019. *(All third party audits completed and conducted prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> 2019, achieving a passing score audited by an approved, endorsed third party auditing agency approved by Sysco/Freshpoint Corporate Quality Assurance, will be accepted as a one-time courtesy).*

1. **If selecting USDA as your third party auditing agency of choice, you will need to ensure you select the USDA Harmonized GAP Plus+ audit. No other versions of USDA audits will be accepted for consideration after January 1<sup>st</sup> 2019.**
2. **It is important to further understand that all auditing schemes selected for compliance must be from an approved third party certification body endorsed by Sysco/Freshpoint Corporate Quality Assurance. All audits must have the appropriate addendums in place regarding either the FDA's Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Preventive Controls or Produce Rule criteria to be accepted.**
3. **If selecting PrimusGFS as your scheme of choice, you will need to ensure you select v3.0 (or subsequent versions) after January 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 and the addendum is exempt due to the appropriate FDA's FSMA rules that are included in these versions.**
4. **All audits must now be entered directly by the "Approved" third party auditing agency/company themselves and/or certification body (CB) via the Azzule Auditing Software<sup>2</sup>. Audits will no longer be accepted via PDF method and uploaded by suppliers directly.**

Once the audit has been entered by the third party auditing agency, suppliers can then access the audits and send them to Sysco/Freshpoint via transfer using the Azzule Supply Chain management tool<sup>1</sup>.

We understand that you and your suppliers utilize a number of potentially different auditing companies/CBs and audit schemes. In an effort to make reporting entry as seamless as possible for all parties involved, you must take the following steps:

- Ensure that you register or already have an Azzule account and have access to the Supply Chain management tool<sup>1</sup>. This will allow you to send your audits onto Sysco/Freshpoint.
- Ensure that all of your auditing companies/CBs are using Azzule Auditing Software. This allows them to submit audits into the database directly posting to your Azzule account.
- Auditing companies/CBs will need to verify that the audit scheme/templates which they are using are available and supported by the Azzule Auditing Software. This is required in order to submit the audits into the database correctly. If not, supported audits will not be accepted into the system and compliance will not be generated possibly resulting in disruption of business opportunities.

If the auditing company chosen does not currently use Azzule, or the scheme/template is not available, a form has been prepared for registering the auditing company/CB and audit schemes/templates. Please contact [support@azzule.com](mailto:support@azzule.com) if you have any questions regarding Azzule and/or its tools mentioned.

**Please refer to all approved Certification Bodies currently endorsed by Sysco/Freshpoint and Sygma<sup>4</sup>.**

All technical questions concerning the Sysco/Freshpoint Branded program should be directed to:

**Dave Podesta**, Director Freshpoint Quality Assurance, 831-970-5278

**Saul Morales**, Director of Quality Assurance Produce, 831-759-3352

**Shane Sampels**, Senior Director Sysco Quality Assurance, 281-584-1313

We thank you for your cooperation and participation.

Sincerely,



Mark Mignogna  
President Quality Assurance



Rich Dachman  
Vice President Produce

1. Instructions for using Azzule can be found here: <http://azzule.com/docs/AZ-PSCP-M-4-Azzule%20Premium%20Supply%20Chain%20Program%20Quick%20Reference%20Guide-v1-04122017.pdf>

2. Information for using Azzule Auditing Software can be found here: <http://azzule.com/auditingsoftware/faq/>

3. Register for Azzule here: <https://secure.azzule.com/SupplyChain/SupplierRegistration/SupplierRegistration.aspx>

4. Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 for the approved list of Certification Bodies & Schemes

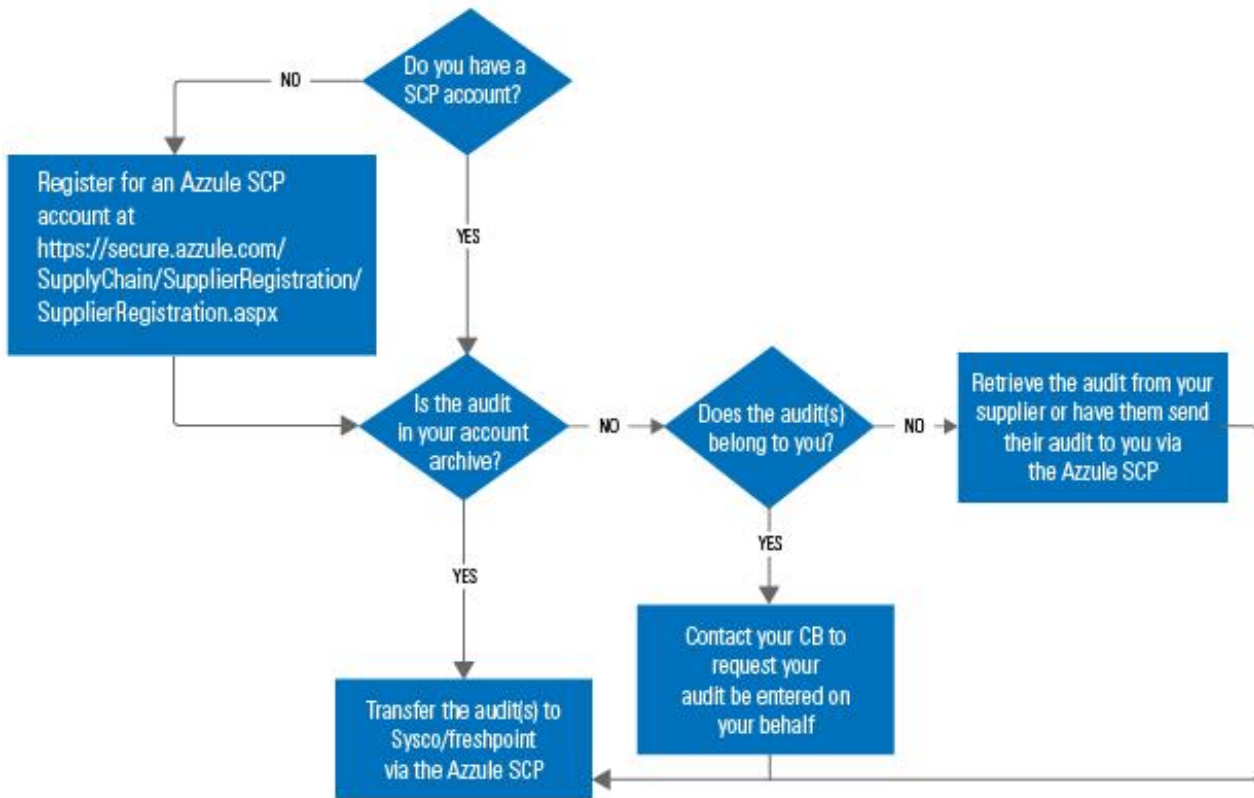
## Compliance Requirements and Process

**Table 1. Sysco/FreshPoint Produce Compliance Requirements**

Supplier Type	Product Type	GAP Audit	GMP Audit	GMP with HACCP Audit	Score Requirement	Approved Certification Bodies	Audit Timeline	Audit Submission
Raw Agricultural Commodity Suppliers	High-Risk Product (see appendix 3)	✓	✓		<b>90%</b> or above	See Appendix 1	Suppliers must provide updated audits every 12 months - with a three month grace period	Valid GAP/GMP audits must be entered by the Certification Body and transferred to Sysco/Freshpoint via the Azzule Supply Chain Program (see process below)
	All Other Products (except sprouts)		✓					
	Mushrooms	✓		✓				
	Sprouts			✓				
Fresh Cut Produce and Deli Salad Suppliers	All Fresh Cut Produce and Deli Salads	✓	✓					

**Table 2. Audit Submission Process**

*\*Azzule members – please refer to the following flow diagram:*



Azzule SCP Registration: <https://secure.azzule.com/SupplyChain/SupplierRegistration/SupplierRegistration.aspx>

## APPENDIX 1 - Accepted Certification Bodies

### Sysco Accepted Certification Bodies

**Ceres Certification International**

PO Box 031  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729  
<http://www.ceresci.com>  
Phone: +1-715-723-5143

**Merieux NutriScience Certification LLC/SILLIKER, Inc**

111 East Wacker Drive, Suite 2300  
Chicago, IL 606001  
<https://www.merieuxnutrisciences.com/us/>  
Phone: +1-312-938-5153

**NSF International**

789 N. Dixboro Rd.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
<http://www.nsf.org>  
Phone: +1-866-834-2516

**Primus Auditing Ops**

1259 Furukawa way  
Santa Maria, CA 93458  
<https://primusauditingops.com/index.php>  
Phone: +1-805-623-5563

**SAI Global EFSIS**

2 Summit Park Drive Suite 425  
Independence, Ohio 44131  
<https://www.saiglobal.com/assurance/food-safety/>  
Phone: +1-800-247-0802

**Scientific Certification Systems (SCS)**

2000 Powell St., Suite 600  
Emeryville, CA 94608  
<https://www.scsglobalservices.com>  
Phone: +1-510-452-8000

**SGS**

201 Route 17 North  
Rutherford, New Jersey 07070  
<https://www.sgsgroup.us.com>  
Phone: +1-201-508-3000

**United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)**

Washington, D.C.  
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/auditing/gap-ghp>  
Phone: +1-202-720-5021

**WQS Food Verification Services LLC**

7400 Carmel Executive Park Drive, Suite 120  
Charlotte, NC 28226  
<https://wqscert.com>  
Phone: +1-980-218-9151

## APPENDIX 2 - Accepted Audit Schemes

### Sysco Accepted Audit Schemes

The following Audit Schemes have been approved and meet the requirements of Sysco's GAP & GMP Audit Program:

#### GFSI Recognized Schemes:

**BRC Global Standard for Food Safety**

Thomas Owen  
E-mail: [enquiries@brglobalstandards.com](mailto:enquiries@brglobalstandards.com)  
Phone: +44 -20 -7854 -8939

**CanadaGAP**

Heather Gale  
E-mail: [offs@hortcouncil.ca](mailto:offs@hortcouncil.ca)  
Phone: +1-613-226-4880, ext. 215

**GLOBAL G.A.P. (IFA and PSS)**

Elme Coetzer  
E-mail: [coetzer@globalgap.org](mailto:coetzer@globalgap.org)  
Tel/Fax: +27-0 -826- 628 -105

**PrimusGFS**

Rebeca Perez  
E-mail: [primusgfs@azzule.com](mailto:primusgfs@azzule.com)  
Phone: +1- 805-354-7127

**SQF Institute (SQF 2000 & SQF 8th Edition)**

Leann Chuboff  
E-mail: [info@sqfi.com](mailto:info@sqfi.com)  
Phone: +1-202-220-0635, Fax: +1-202-429-4519

**USDA Harmonized GAP+ (USDA)\***

Ken Peterson  
E-mail: [ken.petersen@usda.gov](mailto:ken.petersen@usda.gov)  
Phone: +1-202-720-4560

The approved scopes for each GFSI scheme can be found at the GFSI webpage: <https://www.mygfsi.com/certification/recognised-certification-programmes.html>

\*The USDA Harmonized GAP+ template has a GFSI technical equivalence benchmark:  
<https://www.mygfsi.com/certification/technical-equivalence.html>

#### Non-GFSI Recognized Schemes:

**NSF Agriculture**

Nova Sayers  
E-mail: [nsayers@nsf.org](mailto:nsayers@nsf.org)  
Phone: +1-734-913 5710/ +1-831-740-4170

**United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)**

USDA Harmonized GAP, USDA GAP & GHP  
Washington, D.C.  
Phone: +1-202-720-4560

## APPENDIX 3 -High-Risk GAP Commodities

### All High-Risk Raw Agricultural Commodities:

Berries (e.g., raspberries, strawberries, etc.)  
Brassicas (e.g., broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, etc.)  
Celery  
Cucumbers  
Cucurbit fruit (e.g., melons)  
Culinary herbs (e.g., cilantro, lemongrass, parsley, etc.)  
Green onions/salad onions/scallions  
Leafy greens (e.g., chard, lettuce, spinach, etc.)  
Microgreens  
Mushrooms  
Peppers (e.g., bell peppers, chili peppers, etc.)  
Summer squash (e.g., patty pan, zucchini, etc.)  
Tomatoes