



SAMIC Policy Statements

Management System and Commitment

SAMIC management are committed to the implementation and maintenance of its management system which is based on the requirements of ISO/IEC 17020 Conformity assessment – Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection.

The management system has been established by SAMIC in order to ensure that it can meet its obligations as Assignee appointed by the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) for the purpose of the application of sections 3(1)(a) and (b) and 8 of the Agricultural Product Standards Act; 119 (Act 119 of 1990) with regards to the classification and marking of meat intended for the sale in the Republic of South Africa.

SAMIC management has formulated, published and is committed to these management system policies. Each member of management is involved in establishing objectives that pertain to their sphere of operations.

Management ensures that these policies and objectives are acknowledged and implemented at all levels of the SAMIC organization. Management is also involved in ensuring the availability of resources to meet contractual and operational requirements and, to ensure that the management system remains valid to satisfy these needs, management reviews this management system at regular intervals.

SAMIC has also taken a decision to apply for accreditation from the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) as an indicator of its competence in its inspection and auditing functions and is committed to meeting the relevant accreditation requirements.

Impartiality and Independence

SAMIC understands the importance of impartiality and the consideration of any potential conflict of interests in carrying out its inspection and auditing activities. SAMIC recognizes that impartiality and objectivity are the prerequisites for effective and consistent inspection and auditing services.

SAMIC ensures that inspections and audits are conducted impartially by contractually binding agreements. SAMIC takes responsibility for its activities and does not allow commercial, financial or other pressures to compromise impartiality.

Risks to impartiality are identified and analyzed on an ongoing basis and are eliminated/ minimized through policies and procedures.

Confidentiality

SAMIC is committed to providing a confidential service.

SAMIC is responsible, through legally enforceable commitments, for the management of all information obtained or created during the performance of its inspection/auditing activities. SAMIC shall seek DAFF or quality indications owner approval, in advance, of any information related to its assigned activities it intends to place in the public domain.

With the exception of information that DAFF or the quality indications owner makes publicly available, or when agreed with SAMIC, all other information is considered proprietary information and shall be regarded as confidential.

All aspects of inspections and audits are treated as confidential. SAMIC will not disclose any information obtained during inspection and auditing activities to any other party than the auditee, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the Quality Indications owner without the auditee's expressed written permission unless required by Law. SAMIC is however obliged during the course of its duties to disclose confidential information to the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.


R.J. van der Westhuizen
Executive Director

SAMIC (South African Meat Industry Company)


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