




YOUR GUARDS TO SAFE FOOD

## **Implementation of Abu Dhabi Emirate Environment, Health and Safety Management System (AD EHSMS) In the Food Sector**




مركز أبوظبي للبيئة والصحة والسلامة  
Abu Dhabi Environment, Health and Safety Center



The Environment Health and Safety Management System (EHSMS) Regulatory Framework has been developed under Decree No. (42) of 2009 to outline the structure to be adopted and requirements to be met by entities seeking to establish an EHSMS. Therefore, private and government entities should meet, and strive to exceed, the requirements of relevant Emirate and UAE legislation, by developing, implementing and maintaining a compliant EHSMS.

Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority was defined as the Sector Regulatory Authority (SRA) responsible for regulating the Environment, Health and Safety within the Food Sector in Abu Dhabi Emirate. Accordingly, ADFCA will be responsible for the following:

- Developing the sector EHSMS in accordance with AD EHSMS.
  - Identifying entities within its sector that are required to implement an EHSMS.
  - Review and approval of the EHSMS developed by all entities within its sector, in accordance with the requirements of Abu Dhabi EHSMS and their specific requirements.
  - Monitoring the implementation of the system by its entities through periodical inspection, and auditing of their systems if the need arises.
  - Periodical reporting to Abu Dhabi EHS Center on the performance of the EHSMS at food sector.
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Hence, upon receipt of the Official Nomination from Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority you will be legally obligated to develop and implement an EHSMS that is compliant with the AD EHSMS Regulatory Framework and any further requirements of the EHSMS of Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority.

## **Questions and Answers**

**Q. I have ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001, do I still need to implement EHSMS?**

A. Yes; however for entities with systems certified to ISO 14001 and /or OHSAS 18001 there should only be minor modifications to their system to be compliant with the requirements of the AD EHSMS Regulatory Framework.

**Q. Can I use a consultant to help me?**

A. Yes; if an entity intends to utilize a consultant to assist in development and implementation, the entity must ensure the consultant is registered with the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi under Environment Consultancy Offices in Abu Dhabi under the field of Work-EHS Consultancy & EHSMS Development / Implementation.

**Q. What action do I have to take now?**

A. No action is required at this stage; however it would be useful if you familiarize yourself with the requirements of AD EHSMS by visiting the Abu Dhabi EHS Center Website. ([www.adehsms.ae](http://www.adehsms.ae)).



**Q. When will I have to start developing my EHSMS?**

A. ADFCA will notify you officially and will then inform you of the required time frame to develop and implement your EHSMS.

**Q. I operate a very small family business; do I still need to implement an EHSMS?**

A. Yes, however exemptions may be available. ADFCA will notify you if your business is to be exempted.

**Q. When will this process start?**

A. Nominations for registration will commence in the first quarter of 2012.

**Q. I have more than one branch; do I need to develop a separate EHSMS for each?**

A. If you have one trade license for all branches you need to develop one EHSMS, otherwise you have to develop a separate EHSMS for each trade license.

**Q. I Have additional questions about the process, where can I obtain suitable answers?**

A. You can email your questions in either Arabic or English to [ehs@adfca.ae](mailto:ehs@adfca.ae) and the concerned person will respond as soon as possible.

