

October 11, 2011

NF Frozen Co., Ltd. Awarded FSSC 22000 Certification for Pioneering Initiatives in the Frozen Food Industry

- **Food safety management system compliant with global standards provides springboard for overseas expansion of Nippon Flour Mills Group -**

NF Frozen Co., Ltd. (President: Sadao Watanabe), a Group company of Nippon Flour Mills that manufactures and sells frozen food, has been awarded FSSC 22000 certification, an international standard developed for the certification of Food Safety Management Systems.

<FSSC 22000 combines ISO 22000 and stringent prerequisite programs>

FSSC 22000 is a food safety management system for food manufacturers approved by the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI). It has been produced based on the ISO 22000 international standard that defines the requirements of food safety management systems, and PAS 220 (ISO/TS22002-1) should be used as prerequisite. PAS 220 (ISO/TS22002-1) has very stringent requirements compared with previous prerequisite programs, and a higher level of food safety is expected. Standards approved by GFSI are global standards in usage worldwide and are also expected to become more widely used in Japan in the future, as they are also recommended by large domestic distributors.

<Awarded FSSC 22000 certification for innovative frozen food plant>

Nippon Flour Mills Group company NF Frozen Food Co., Ltd. was awarded FSSC 22000 certification on September 30 (Friday). The GFSI approved standard is a global audit standard for food manufacturing plants and makes it possible to reduce the frequency of customer plant audits, as it ensures a higher level of food safety than before. Having gained FSSC 22000 certification, NF Frozen Food will seek to reduce costs while ensuring safety and work to increase its competitiveness.



<Helping increase competitiveness on domestic and overseas markets>

The Nippon Flour Mills Group has been actively established management systems, for example, it was granted ISO90001 quality management system certification ahead of other companies in the milling industry. Its early achievement of FSSC 22000 certification will enable the Group to respond quickly to global market needs. In the future, other plants in the Nippon Flour Mills Group will work to gain certification against GFSI approved standards and pursue food safety management compatible with globalization.

1. Overview of FSSC (Food Safety System Certification) 22000

- Who is it for : Food manufacturing industry
- Benefits of adoption :
 - Helps ensure food safety
 - Can be used as tool to support globalization of production and sales
 - Can reduce internal and external audit costs
- For further details, please see the FSSC 22000 homepage > <http://www.fssc22000.com/en/>

2. Overview of FSSC 22000 Certification Awarded to NF Frozen Foods Co., Ltd.

- Certificate Date : September 30 (Friday), 2011
- Certification Body : Japan Quality Assurance Organization (JQA)
- Scope of certification : Design, development, manufacturing and delivery of frozen foods
- Overview of company : Representative: Sadao Watanabe, President
Established: March 1996
Address: Kokuryocho, Isesaki (Head office & plant)
Business: Production and sale of frozen foods



▲ Exterior view of NF Frozen Food

《Reference》 Explanation of terms

■ ISO (International Organization for Standardization) 22000

An international standard that defines the requirements of a food safety management system covering all organizations in the food chain (food-related companies). Aims to raise level of food safety through demonstration of food safety and continuous improvement.

- **PAS (Publicly Available Specification) 220**

British standard established for food safety in food manufacturing by the British Standards Institute (BSI) and embodying part of the ISO 22000 prerequisite programs. Published as international standard ISO/TS22002-1

- **GFSI (Global Food Safety Initiative)**

Non-profit organization established in 2000 by distributors and food manufacturers in an attempt to develop global audit standards for food manufacturing plants to reduce costs. Major global corporations such as Metro, Carrefour, Walmart, Aeon, McDonalds, Danone, Coca-Cola and Cargill participate in the scheme. Besides FSSC 22000, currently 12 schemes (standards) have been approved, including BRC Global Standard and SQF (Safe Quality Food) 1000/2000. Standards approved by GFSI are recognized as systems of global standards for food safety, and products manufactured at plants awarded certification are considered reliable from a global standard point.