

## Halal Certification Scheme



In traditional Islamic Law, halal (حلال) refers to what is permitted or lawful to be consumed or used. It is often associated with the specific dietary requirements on Muslims.

### *The Halal Market*

Supported by the ever growing population of Muslims (latest global tally at 1.83 billion), the burgeoning Muslim economy has seen its annual trade volume of halal products exploding past US\$2 trillion, and still has tremendous potential for further growth, especially in relation to the food & beverages, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, healthcare products, tourism and hospitality industries. With such strong consumer demand, there is an increasing need for halal products and services, recognized as a symbol of quality, safety and wholesomeness, to be verified and validated in compliance with corresponding halal standards and certification system.

### *Halal Certification Body*

Halal certification has to be done by a recognized halal certification body (CB) or a government authority that is entrusted with halal certification approval. The Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) together with a number of recognized CBs and agencies are responsible for the issuance of such certification, which is carried out by qualified halal auditors. The Malaysian authority is the pioneer in halal certification overseeing abattoirs, halal food supply chain (from manufacturers and distributors to transporters, warehouse operators and workers), outlets, restaurants, and imported consumer products.

### Applicable Scope

The halal certification scheme stipulated by JAKIM is divided into the following categories:

- Food Premise / Hotel
- Slaughterhouse
- Food Product / Beverages / Food Supplement
- Consumer Goods
- Pharmaceuticals
- Cosmetics and Personal Care
- Logistics

### Certification Procedure

Certification begins with the submission of application, supporting documents, business registration proof and payment (varies with categories) to CB. When the initial application procedure is fulfilled, two or more officers who are conversant with Islamic teachings and technical issues will conduct the auditing, which includes, without limitation, the following items:

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a. Documentation and Company profile	b. Raw material / Ingredient and Processing Aid	c. Sanitation System and Premise Cleanliness
d. Internal Halal Control System	e. Storage	f. Workers
g. Packaging and Labelling	h. Processing	i. Waste Disposal Management
j. Equipment	k. Transportation	l. Premise Compound

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Laboratory analysis of the products, packaging materials, and labels, etc. shall be performed as needed at ISO/IEC 17025-accredited institutes.

Subsequent to the approval from the certification panel, the halal certificate and logo would be conferred to the corresponding products / premises. To ensure the certified has maintained a consistently high quality, surveillance shall be performed during the valid period of the certificate, with re-auditing plans in place after it expires.

### Our Services

STC (The Hong Kong Standards and Testing Centre), a not-for-profit, independent testing, inspection and certification organization with over 50 years of experience in consumer product testing, collaborates with prestigious Halal CBs to offer consultancy services for product / premise application and preliminary review on documentation to manufacturers, distributors, suppliers, food outlets, restaurants, etc. in the course of certification. Our ISO/IEC 17025-accredited laboratories are capable of performing food composition analysis on pork, alcohol and other critical ingredients.

**For more details of Halal Certification requirements and procedures, please contact our Chemical, Food and Pharmaceutical Division:**

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