



Singapore Manufacturing
Federation
新加坡制造商总会

MEDIA RELEASE

NEW SINGAPORE COLD CHAIN STANDARD ENHANCES FOOD SAFETY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF FOOD CROPS

27th September 2013 – Singapore Manufacturing Federation – Standards Development Organisation (SMF-SDO) organised the launch of the new SS 585: 2013, Singapore Standard for Cold Chain Management of Vegetables. Held at Furama Riverfront Hotel, the launch was attended by participants from local industries, government regulatory bodies and academia. Presentations were given on the features, implementation plans and economic benefits of the standard, attributable to the Working Group (WG) members who developed the new standard over 16 months.

The new Singapore Standard (SS) is a revision of the previous technical reference (TR) for Cold Chain Management of Vegetables, TR 24: 2007. Major supermarket retailers and logistics companies offering cold chain services have adopted this TR. SS 585: 2013 provides an easier and more concise understanding for end-users. The introduction of this SS follows industry feedback and updates from new references and procedures adopted as best practices regionally.

One essential element for the successful adoption of SS585 by the local industries in the food supply chain is the comprehensive training platform provided by Singapore Cold Chain Centre, administered by GS1 Singapore.

“Singapore Cold Chain Centre has collaborated with Food Innovation & Resource Centre in Singapore Polytechnic since 2010 to conduct Cold Chain Management training programs for adult trainees from local industries. Till date, almost 400 trainees had completed the training program which uses the three existing Singapore Cold Chain standards as a guiding text in their learning,” said Mr. Johnny Ang, Assistant Director, GS1 Singapore Limited.

Singapore's development of the three Cold Chain Standards for Vegetables, Chilled Pork and Milk & Dairy products provides an additional level of expertise and value proposition to our food export market which demands our food stock. Being the first country to have cold chain management standards for specific food products in the region provides Singapore a competitive edge as a regional cold chain management hub.

SPRING Singapore will be working towards obtaining international recognition and adoption of these standards at ISO (International Standards Organisation) level. With a successful escalation and adoption at the ISO level, Singapore food exporters using these stringent cold chain standards will stand to gain by being sought after for its professional levels of safety and handling.

"SS585: 2013 meets the increasing demand by consumers for value-for-money agri-produce. With the implementation of this Standard, it ensures safety, freshness, quality and availability of vegetables. In the long run, less agri-produce will be spoilt in the cold chain process from farms to supermarkets. This will result in higher earnings for suppliers in the value chain. There will also be a greater availability of choice and better quality of vegetables for consumers," said Mr Lam Joon Khoi, Secretary-General, Singapore Manufacturing Federation.

About SMF Standards Development Organisation (SMF-SDO)

The Singapore Manufacturing Federation (SMF) was appointed by SPRING Singapore on 1 April 2011 as the Standards Development Organisation (SDO) for the following Standards Committees;

- Biomedical Standards Committee (BMSC)
- Food Standards Committee (FSC)
- General Engineering & Safety Standards Committee (GESSC)

SMF-SDO administers the development, promotion and implementation of standards in these areas to meet the needs of industry and regulators. SMF-SDO is guided by the industry-led Singapore Standards Council, which provides advice on the directions, policies, strategies and priorities for the Singapore Standardisation Programme, managed by SPRING Singapore, the national standards body.

About SMF

Established since 1932, SMF represents the interest of the Singapore manufacturing community, driving its competitiveness and sustainable growth through serving industry-specific needs. Supported by 10 industry groups and 6 Centres of Excellence, SMF enhances the competitiveness of the industry by encouraging capacity development and capability building, innovation and productivity.

It provides opportunities for companies to collaborate, network; and to grow and expand both locally and internationally. Current membership stands at more than 3,000 corporate members ranging from SMEs to MNCs. For more information, please visit www.smfederation.org.sg

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