# FFI Report

Supplemental Resource – Review of ISO Terms and Definitions Related to Food Fraud, Food Defense or Food Defence, Food Protection, and Food Integrity with Proposed Adapted Definitions (Working Paper)

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# **ABSTRACT**

- 1 This paper presents a comprehensive review
- 2 of the International Standards Organization
- 3 (ISO) definitions related to food fraud, food
- 4 defense or food defence, food protection, and
- 5 food integrity. It explores the existing terms in
- 6 ISO standards and offers adapted definitions
- 7 based on these frameworks. Terms like "food
- 8 fraud" are not defined but have been well-
- 9 established in ISO standards. On the other
- 10 hand, the definitions of "food defense," "food
- 11 protection," and "food integrity" have not been
- 12 defined and have been less clearly
- 13 established.
- 14 The adapted definition of "food fraud" closely
- 15 aligns with previously established definitions.
- 16 This research highlights that the existing
- 17 definitions for "food defense" and "food

- 18 protection" fall short of industry practices. The
- 19 paper suggests that future ISO definitions
- 20 should reflect current industry applications.
- 21 Furthermore, the study discusses the need for
- 22 a more precise ISO definition of "food
- 23 integrity," offering two potential
- 24 interpretations one focusing narrowly on the
- 25 food product and another encompassing
- 26 broader organizational responsibility.
- 27 The research concludes that while ISO-
- 28 derived definitions can serve as ar
- 29 international, consensus-based foundation, it
- 30 is most efficient for them to be refined to
- 31 match the evolving needs of the food safety
- 32 and security sectors. This report proposed a
- 33 set of adapted definitions.

- 34 Food Fraud (Option 1, Adapted ISO 35 definition): wrongful or criminal 36 deception that utilizes food for financial or 37 personal gain [countermeasures are "food 38 fraud prevention"]
- 39 Food Fraud (Option 2, Defined by GFSI): 40 "a collective term encompassing the 41 deliberate and intentional substitution, 42 addition, tampering or misrepresentation 43 of food, food ingredients, feed, food 44 packaging or labeling, product information 45 or false or misleading statement made 46 about a product for economic gain that 47 could impact consumer health." [1]
- 48 Food Fraud (Option 3, Scholarly 49 definition): "intentional deception for 50 economic gain using food." [2]
- Food Defense (Adapted ISO definition -51 • 52 extended version): measures 53 safeguard and enable an organization to 54 reduce the **impact** of a potential 55 disruption of one's food against some 56 injury attempted by another.[1]

- 57 Food Defense (Option 2 - defined by **GFSI):** "The process to ensure the security of food, food ingredients, feed or food packaging from all forms of intentional malicious attack including ideologically motivated attack leading to contamination or unsafe product." (REF) (GFSI v2024)
- Food Protection 64 • (Adapted ISO 65 definition): measures that safeguard and 66 enable an organization to reduce the 67 impact of potential disruption of food; 68 Note: the scope is beyond public health 69 harms to any type of disruption.
- 70 Food Integrity (Option 1, Adapted ISO 71 definition): the property of being 72 complete and unaltered.
- 73 Food Integrity (Option 2, Adapted ISO 74 definition): the degree to which a set of 75 inherent characteristics fulfills 76 requirements of being complete and 77 unaltered as well as in terms of 78 characteristics and requirements.

Keywords: "Food Fraud," "Food Defense," "Food Protection," "Food Integrity," "ISO Standards," "International Standards Organization (ISO)," "Food Safety Management"

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# INTRODUCTION

This report is a comprehensive review of the International Standards Organization (ISO) formally published in the "Terms & Definitions" sections. This also introduces commentary on how the terms are mentioned or used in other sections, such as the introduction or the main body of the standards. The scope of work was to support food safety-related standards that protect products from any type of harm to humans, whether intentional or unintentional.

There is a need to review "food fraud" and "food defense" or "food defence" since both terms are being implemented in a wide range of ISO activities. Although there is always value in formalizing the definition, there is less of a need for an ISO definition of "food protection" or "food integrity."

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# BACKGROUND

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# The Role of ISO and Expert Contributions in Standardization

- The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is the world's leading body responsible for developing and publishing international standards across multiple industries. [3] These standards ensure consistency in products, services, processes, and systems, supporting quality, safety, and efficiency globally. However, ISO itself does not conduct certification; this is handled by accredited third-party organizations.
- ISO operates through a network of national standards bodies, bringing together experts from different sectors to establish globally recognized benchmarks. For instance, in the United States, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) represents the country's participation in international standardization efforts. Established in 1918 by government agencies and technical societies, ANSI plays a crucial role in shaping voluntary standards that impact industries nationwide.
- 107 ISO's standards development process relies heavily on the contributions of technical experts who 108 bring industry knowledge, scientific expertise, and practical experience to the table. These experts 109 participate in Technical Committees (TCs), Subcommittees (SCs), and Working Groups (WGs), 110 where they collaborate on drafting, revising, and refining standards.
- Experts come from a wide range of backgrounds, including industry professionals, researchers, government representatives, and consumer organizations. Their collective expertise ensures that ISO standards are both technically sound and aligned with industry needs.

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# Ongoing Revisions to ISO 22000:2018 and ISO/DIS 22002-100 for

# **Enhanced Food Safety Management**

118 As of February 2025, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is actively

revising its food safety management standards, particularly ISO 22000:2018 and the draft

120 ISO/DIS 22002-100. These revisions aim to enhance and formalize requirements related to

121 food fraud and food defense.1

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ISO 22000:2018, which outlines the criteria for a food safety management system, is currently an "Approved Work Item" (AWI) undergoing revision. The project, designated as ISO/AWI 22000, entered the preparatory stage (stage 20.00) in September 2024. The subsequent step, "20.20 Working Draft (WD) Study Initiated," is anticipated but has not yet commenced. This revision is expected to introduce more comprehensive guidelines on

managing food fraud and food defense within food safety management systems. [4]

The draft standard ISO/DIS 22002-100, titled "Prerequisite Programmes on Food Safety— Part 100: PRP Requirements Common for Food, Feed, and Packaging Supply Chain," is also under development. The "Draft International Standard" (DIS) is in the "enquiry" phase with ISO members. This document aims to establish common requirements for prerequisite programs (PRPs) across the food, feed, and packaging sectors to assist in controlling food safety hazards. In food safety management, a "prerequisite program" is defined in ISO 22000 as "basic conditions and activities that are necessary within the organization (3.31) and throughout the food chain (3.20) to maintain food safety." [5] The draft reached the enquiry phase (stage 40.60) with the close of voting on June 28, 2024. Publication of the finalized ISO 22002 series, including Part 100, is anticipated by April or May 2025. [6] The ISO/DIS 22002-100 compliance requirements for "food fraud" are provided in the Appendix. For here, in the background section, it is important to note that the draft standard has compliance requirements, however there is no formal or even informal definition of "food fraud." It is not stated, but it is assumed that terms that are not defined rely on everyday usage, an external reference glossary, or a lexicon. The source of the definition is not defined and thus could be confusing depending on the definition that a user may choose.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The author is a work group voting member "Expert" for ISO TC 292 Work Group 1 on vocabulary (ISO 22300), Work Group 2 on product authentication (ISO 22380 series), and Work Group 3 on physical security (ISO 28000 and others). ISO 22300 and ISO 22380 includes the requirements and definition of "product fraud" and "authentic product". He is also a voting member and expert for ISO/TC 34 Food Products / Sub-Committee 17 Management systems for food safety (ISO 22000). ISO 22000 includes the requirements and definition of "food fraud" and "food defense" or "food defence." An ISO work group "expert" is an individual with specialized knowledge in a specific area who actively participates in the development of an ISO standard within a working group, contributing their expertise to draft and review documents, provide technical input, and work towards achieving consensus on the standard's content, representing their personal knowledge rather than a specific organization or country.

# Published ISO "Terms & Definitions" Related to Food Fraud, Food

# Defense, Food Protection, and Food Integrity

- 146 There are no "published" "Terms & Definitions" for these specific terms in publicly available
- standards or draft international standards, though there are related terms and words that apply.
- 148 While these terms are mentioned in published standards, including required compliance. For
- 149 example, there are no formal definitions of "food fraud," "food defense," or "food defense," and there
- are no formal definitions of "food protection," "food fraud," and "food integrity." Definitions for these
- 151 terms can be derived from the root terms.
- 152 Some terms can be derived from their root terms. Some standards are directly or indirectly
- applicable standards, such as ISO 22000 for "food defense" and "food fraud" and ISO 22380 for
- "product fraud." [7, 8] For example, "food defence" can be derived from the root terms are "food" and
- "defense" or "security." Also, more directly, "food fraud" can be derived from adding the "food"
- definition to "product fraud." This research project was created to only consider ISO-published terms
- and not any laws, regulations, standards, certifications, or common practices.
- 158 The term and definition of "food" have been published. To start the research, the definition of food is
- 159 provided. There were nine results of definitions of food with the key focus on Technical Committee
- 160 34 and specifically Work Group 34 in ISO 22000 Food Safety Management. [5] The broad term "food"
- includes the ingredients such as "feed."
  - "Food: "substance (ingredient), whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is intended for consumption, and includes drink, chewing gum and any substance which has been used in the manufacture, preparation or treatment of "food" but does not include cosmetics or tobacco or substances (ingredients) used only as drugs; Note 1 to entry: Distinctions are made in this document between the terms food (3.18), feed (3.16) and animal food (3.19): food is intended for consumption by humans and animals, and includes feed and animal food; feed is intended to be fed to food-producing animals; animal food is intended to be fed to non-food-producing animals, such as pets." (SOURCE: CAC/GL 81-2013, modified The word "human" has been deleted; ISO 22000:2018, 3.18)

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# Widely Adopted definitions of Food Fraud, Food Defense, and Related

#### 173 Terms

- While these terms are not clearly published in ISO standards, they have been in use for over ten years.
- 175 Research papers have reviewed the development of terms such as food fraud and also surveyed the
- everyday use of the terms. [2, 9] Specifically, the food industry standards are based on the Global
- 177 Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), including FSSC 22000, BRC/ BRCGS, IFS, SQF, and others. [1] (GFSI)
- 178 Also, Codex Alimentarius the "world food code" has been creating a Discussion Paper on Food
- 179 Fraud that includes terms and definitions since at least 2014. [10] Other entities, such as the U.S.
- 180 Food and Drug Administration, the European Commission, the Food Authenticity Network, and
- 181 INTERPOL/ Europol, have created at least working definitions of the terms. [10-13] The various

definitions are very similar in scope. Still, there is confusion since, in some cases, they do not fully agree.

The Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) is an especially important consideration regarding definitions of key terms based on the widely adopted standards and certifications. [14] GFSI is the benchmark for food safety standards such as BRC/BRCGS, FSSC 22000, IFS, SQF, and others. In 2018, the GFSI required compliance for food fraud prevention. This is NOT optional in the nearly universally adopted Food Safety Management System (FSMS) standards. Since 2014, GFSI has had a definition of "food fraud" and "food defense" that has been the foundation for compliance. Thus, the world food trade has already adopted and implemented systems based on this definition from GFSI version 2024:

o **Food Fraud (defined by GFSI):** "a collective term encompassing the deliberate and intentional substitution, addition, tampering or misrepresentation of food, food ingredients, feed, food packaging or labeling, product information or false or misleading statement made about a product for economic gain that could impact consumer health." [1]

GFSI also provides a list of the types of food fraud in the technical document titled "Tackling Food Fraud Through Food Safety Management Systems." [15] The types of food fraud were published in a table with definitions and application examples and include: dilution, substitution, concealment, unapproved enhancement, mislabeling or misbranding, gray market, theft or diversion, and intellectual property rights infringement of counterfeiting (IP) (See the GFSI technical document for more details). [15]

For reference and consideration, the widely-adopted practitioner usage definitions of these terms are presented (TABLE): [1, 9, 16]

Table 1: Review of General Adopted Definitions and Examples of Key Food Risk Terms Including GFSI definitions: [1, 9, 16]

Term	Quoted Short Definition	Application/Example	GFSI Definition (Version 2024, with Page Number)
Food Fraud	"Intentional deception for economic gain using food" (Journal of Food Science, 2011, p.2706)	Melamine added to ground meat to deceive protein content tests	Deliberate substitution, tampering, and misrepresentation for economic gain impacting consumer health (p.6)
Food	"Ensuring food is of	Verifying halal food for	NA
Authenticity	expected nature, substance, and quality" (DEFRA, 2014, p.2707)	religious groups	
Food Integrity	"The product meets specified safety, authenticity, and quality" (EU Food Integrity Project, 2017, p.2707)	Ensuring European cheese authenticity	NA

Food Defense	"Protect against	Tampering with food by	Ensuring the security of food	
	intentional acts of harm"	disgruntled employees	from malicious	
	(GFSI, 2017, p.2707)		contamination (p.6)	
Food Protection	"Address food safety and	Integrating food safety	NA	
	defense for unintentional	practices		
	and deliberate			
	contamination" (FDA,			
	2007, p.2707)			
Other Related Terms				
Economically	"Fraudulent"	Dilution of juice with	NA	
Motivated	substitution or addition	water		
Adulteration	for economic gain with			
(EMA)	potential health risk"			
	(FDA, 2009, p.2707)			
Food Safety	"Assurance food will not	Monitoring food	Assurance food will not	
	cause harm if consumed	temperature in transport	cause adverse health	
	as intended (FAO, 2017,		effects if used as intended	
	p.2707)		(p.6)	
Food Quality	"Attributes influencing	Checking expiration date	NA	
	product value, including	accuracy		
	spoilage and processing			
	methods" (FAO, 2017,			
	p.2707)			

The relationship between the terms is presented (Figure): [17]

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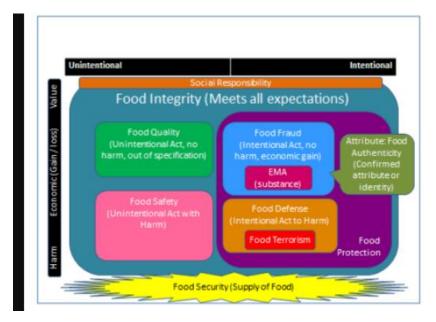


Figure 1: Food Risk Matrix - Expanded to include Food Integrity, Food Protection, and Food Authenticity. [17]

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Since there are no current published ISO terms, this project concluded with the development of adapted, summary definitions of these key terms and definitions.

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# **METHODS**

- 216 Undefined terms can be researched by considering other terms that are already defined in other
- 217 publications. This applies to ISO terms and definitions. The process often involves conducting a
- 218 literature review and then proposing a new term that is harmonized with all the other uses.
- 219 The ISO.org website includes a keyword search function that allows searching their entire website for
- terms (and their stem) in the "Terms & Definitions" section (formally published and defined) and also
- in the "Standards." In some cases, the full published standards were searched to gain more insight
- into the use of the term.
- 223 For example, a search of ISO standards found mentions of but not explicit definitions of "food
- defense" or "food defence. The study started by considering root terms which are "food" and
- "defense." The study also considers anywhere the terms were found in any part of a standard, a
- guidance document, or anywhere on the ISO website. Next, the study sought other related terms,
- and, in this case, they were "security," "protection," "integrity," "attack," "threat," or whatever else we
- 228 found.
- 229 This process was applied to each term, including food fraud, food defense or food defence, food
- 230 protection, and food integrity.

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# **RESULTS and DISCUSSION**

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- 234 Simply changing keywords in existing definitions did not produce practical, real-world definitions.
- 235 With the exception of "food fraud"—which was adapted from the ISO 22380 definition of "product
- 236 fraud" combined with the general definition of "food"—most ISO-derived definitions did not correlate
- with the practice. It is logical that the term "food fraud" works since the ISO definition of "product
- 238 fraud" played a key role in shaping the concept within the GFSI Food Fraud Think Tank's early
- 239 framework. [14]
- 240 On the other hand, "food defense" has well-established definitions in practice, but its ISO-based
- derivations were less applicable. Combining the ISO definitions of "food" and "defense" did not align
- 242 with how the term is actually used. Similarly, "food protection" and "food integrity" have widely

- accepted meanings that differ significantly from simply merging ISO-defined root words, making ISO derived definitions even more complex.
- 245 Before reviewing the results and discussion for each term, there are several formatting notes:
  - Any mention of ISO refers to published standards, definitions, or documents from the website.[18]
  - The results and discussion will be presented by term, and then a summary will be given.
  - Key standards are identified in bold underlining, specifically ISO 22000 and ISO 22300. Any reference to ISO 22000 or ISO 22300, unless specified such as with a year, is a reference to the entire family of standards such as ISO 22380 (ISO 22000 and ISO 22300 are the "parent" document that has many more detailed standards in the "family.") [4, 7, 19]
  - Any numbers in the definitions are a cross-reference to where the term is located in the standard (E.g., "(3.1.193)" refers to 3 Terms & Definitions, Section 1 Risk Terms, and then this is the 193<sup>rd</sup> term defined in this standard).
  - The consideration of ISO/ DIS 22002-100 was intentionally limited. This is still in the draft phase, and details could still be changed before the final standard is published. It was noted that while there are sections that detail the expectations, there is currently no definition of "food fraud" or "food defense."
  - For the adjusted definitions that are derived, they use a base ISO definition, and then added or adjusted words are noted with emphasis, such as "<food>" where the word "food" has been inserted.

#### Part 1 – Food Fraud

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- 265 This is the search for "food fraud."
- Search Terms & Definitions: "food fraud"; Results: no listing.
- Search Standards: "food fraud": Results: 14
  - Note: This is peculiar because there is no definition, but this term is found in other discussions. It appears that the term definition is accepted as already existing.
- Next, there was a broader search on "fraud."
- Search Terms & Definitions: "fraud": Results: 221
- Search Standards: "Fraud"; Results: 5
- 273 This led to a search for the "product fraud" term.
- Search Terms & Definitions: "product fraud": Results: 1
- 275 Search Standards: "Product Fraud": Results: 9
- The definition is provided here.
- **Product fraud** (ISO 22300, 3.2.192): "wrongful or criminal deception that utilizes material goods (3.1.149) for financial or personal gain; Note 1 to entry: Fraud means wrongful or criminal

- 279 deception intended to result in financial or personal gain that creates social or economic harm; 280 Note 2 to entry: Products include electronic media carried on material goods; Note 3 to entry: 281 Fraud related to digitally transmitted electronic media shall be considered separately."
- 282 Combining the current ISO terms and definitions (quotes represent the text of a published standard, 283 "<" represents a clarification in the published quote, and "["represents the edit for the new 284 definitions).
- 285 • Food Fraud<sup>2</sup> (Adapted ISO definition): "wrongful or criminal deception that utilizes food for 286 financial or personal gain [countermeasures are "food fraud prevention"].
  - Food Fraud (Option 2, Defined by GFSI): "a collective term encompassing the deliberate and intentional substitution, addition, tampering or misrepresentation of food, food ingredients, feed, food packaging or labeling, product information or false or misleading statement made about a product for economic gain that could impact consumer health." [1]
- 291 • Food Fraud (Option 3, Scholarly definition): "intentional deception for economic gain using 292 food." [2]
- 293 Summary: This definition of food fraud is nearly identical to the ideas presented in the most widely 294 adopted definitions. In part, this correlation should not be a surprise since the definition of product 295 fraud in ISO 22300 was fundamental to many of the early definitions of food fraud, such as Spink & 296 Moyer (2011) and the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI). [1, 2] To provide more clarity, it would be helpful to include examples of the types of food fraud. Many standards or codes include types such 298 as in ISO 22380, GFSI, and the Codex Electronic Working Group draft guidance, among others.

#### Part 1 – Food Defense 300

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- 301 This is a search for "food defense."
- 302 Search Terms & Definitions: "Food defense" or "Food Defence"; Results: no listing.
- 303 Search Standards: "Food defense" or "Food Defence"; Results: 7 and 9
- 304 Next, there was a more basic search for "defense/ defence."
- 305 Search Terms & Definitions: "defense/ defence" - there were only four entries, and two were the 306 same.
- 307 Search General: "defense" or "defence"; Result: 292
- 308 For reference, the most applicable definition is included here. The key terms in the definition are also 309 defined for a complex definition.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Note: The most common general definition of "food fraud" is "intentional deception for economic gain using food." The definition of "food fraud" that applies to the GFSI benchmarking document is "A collective term encompassing the deliberate and intentional substitution, addition, tampering or misrepresentation of food, food ingredients or food packaging, labelling, product information or false or misleading statements made about a product for economic gain that could impact consumer health."

• **Self-defense:** "protection (3.1.193) of one's person or property against some injury attempted by another" (SOURCE: <u>ISO 22300:2021</u>, 3.1.259; SOURCE: Black's Law Dictionary, ISO 18788:2015, 3.69)

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- Protection (3.2.193): "measures that safeguard and enable an organization (3.1.165) to reduce the impact (3.1.118) of a potential disruption (3.1.75)" (SOURCE: **ISO 22300:2021** 
  - Organization (3.1.165): "person or group of people that has its own functions with responsibilities, authorities, and relationships to achieve its objectives (3.1.162); Note 1 to entry: The concept of organization includes, but is not limited to, soletrader, company, corporation, firm, enterprise, authority, partnership (3.1.173), charity or institution, or part or combination thereof, whether incorporated or not, public or private." (SOURCE: ISO 22300:2021
  - **Impact** (3.1.118): "outcome of a disruption (3.1.75) affecting objectives (3.1.162)" (SOURCE: **ISO 22300:2021**
  - **Disruption** (3.1.75): "incident (3.1.122), whether anticipated or unanticipated, that causes an unplanned, negative deviation from the expected delivery of products and services (3.1.192) according to an organization's (3.1.165) objectives (3.1.162)" (SOURCE: **ISO 22300:2021**)
- 327 A key is the concept of injury, harm, or damage, but these definitions all apply to specific situations.
- Injury: "damage to a biological organism caused by physical harm" (ISO 19434:2017, 3.15)
- **Damage:** "unfavorable change or physical harm that impairs the value, usefulness, condition or normal function or activities" (ISO 6707-4:2021, 3.8.3)
- Harm: "physical injury and/or damage to health or property" (SOURCE: ISO/IEC Guide 51:2014,
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   3.1; ISO 3864-2:2016, 3.5)
- Combining the Iso definition of "defense" and "food," the combined definition would be (quotes represent the text of a published standard, "<" represent a clarification in the published quote, and "["represents the edit for the new definitions):
- Food Defence (Option 1, Adapted ISO definition): "protection (3.1.193) of one's [food] against some injury attempted by another."
- Food Defense (Option 1 Alternate, Adapted ISO definition extended version): "<measures that safeguard and enable an organization (3.1.165) to reduce the impact (3.1.118) of a potential disruption> of one's [food] against some injury attempted by another."
  - Food Defense (Option 2 defined by GFSI): "The process to ensure the security of food, food
    ingredients, feed or food packaging from all forms of intentional malicious attack including
    ideologically motivated attack leading to contamination or unsafe product." (REF) (GFSI v2024)
    - **Summary:** This really does NOT seem to come close to the traditional food industry use of the food defense term. A new ISO food defense definition should build upon the current terms but be a new definition aligned with the current food industry and regulatory application.

#### 349 Part 2 – Food Protection

- 350 This is a search for "food protection."
- Search Terms & Definitions: "food protection;" Results: no listing.
- Search Standards: "Food Protection": Results: zero only the titles of journals in the references.
- Next, the search was broadened to just "protection."
- Search Terms & Definitions: "protection" there were only nine definitions, none from ISO 22000
   Food Safety and one in ISO 22300 Product Fraud.
- Search Standards: "protection"; Results: 6000+
- 357 The most applicable definition is included here.
- **Protection:** "measures that safeguard and enable an organization (3.1.165) to reduce the impact (3.1.118) of a potential disruption (3.1.75)" (SOURCE: **ISO 22300:2021**, 3.1.193)
- The food defense and food protection concepts have been applied to public health hazards. So related terms were searched to possibly narrow the scope.
- Search: "hazard;" Result: 155 terms but not in ISO 22000 or ISO 22300
- 363 The definition is provided here.

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- Hazard: "potential source of harm" (SOURCE: ISO/TS 18683:2021, 3.1.11)
  - Note: any harm to public health or human illness.
  - ISO 30000 Ships and marine technology (and other building-related standards) identifies a hazard as: "source or situation with a potential for harm in terms of human injury or ill health (both short and long term), damage to property, damage to the environment, or a combination of these" (SOURCE: ISO 30000:2009, 3.4)
- 370 To further explore hazards, here is a review of ISO 22000:
  - Food safety hazard (3.22): "biological, chemical or physical agent in food (3.18) with the potential to cause an adverse health effect; Note 1 to entry: The term "hazard" is not to be confused with the term "risk" (3.39) which, in the context of food safety, means a function of the probability of an adverse health effect (e.g. becoming diseased) and the severity of that effect (e.g. death, hospitalization) when exposed to a specified hazard." (SOURCE: CAC/RCP 1-1969)
    - The "adverse health effect" is not defined.
    - o This clearly states a difference between "hazard" and "risk."
- Combining the current ISO terms and definitions (quotes represent the text of a published standard, "<" represents a clarification in the published quote, and "["represents the edit for the new definitions).
  - Food Protection (Adapted ISO definition): "measures that safeguard and enable an organization (3.1.165) to reduce the impact (3.1.118) of a potential disruption (3.1.75) [of food]."
    - o Note: the scope is beyond public health harms to any type of disruption.

**Summary:** This really does NOT come close to the traditional food industry's use of the food protection term. Another term could possibly be added to narrow the focus to any unintentional or intentional food safety hazard's root cause. This would exclude reducing the disruptions from food quality incidents.

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### Part 4 – Food Integrity

- 390 Food integrity is included here since it has recently been used in the food safety related context.
- 391 Some issues that are outside ISO definitions that add complexity for companies are "product
- integrity," "organizational integrity," "brand integrity," "brand protection," "management integrity," and
- 393 other corporate social responsibility attributes.
- 394 There are different conclusions for the definition of "food integrity" based on the initial scope of
- focus. One focus is narrowed down to the product's functional characteristics. Another focus is
- 396 broader, including the "organization reputation" or product-related "brand reputation."
- 397 This is the search for "food integrity."
- Search Terms & Definitions: "Food Integrity"; Results: no listing.
  - Search Standards: "Food Integrity": Results: 1
    - Note: There was one mention in that text: "consumer trust, e.g., IBM Food Trust, Trace Alliance, and GS1 pilots. Food integrity assurance and fraud countermeasures IGP, protected marine species and other high-value products." [Note: the text of the ISO standard assumes a high level of reader expertise and familiarity with concepts and abbreviations such as IBM, Food Trust, Trace Alliance, and GS1.]
- 405 Next, to find more possible options, there was a search for "integrity."
- Search Terms & Definitions: "Integrity;" Results: 2000+
- Search Standards: "Integrity"; Results: 289
- This term has more variations, so several of the base definitions are provided. However, they are only applied to ISO standards related to security, not a holistic application.
- Integrity: "quality of being complete and unaltered" (SOURCE: ISO 13008:2012 Information and documentation Digital records, 3.11; ISO 11506:2017, 3.1 Document management applications Archiving of electronic data)
- Integrity: "property of accuracy and completeness" (SOURCE: ISO/IEC 27000:2018 Information technology Security techniques; ISO/IEC TR 27550:2019 Information technology Security techniques, 3.5)
- Integrity: "property that data has not been altered or destroyed in an unauthorized manner"

  (SOURCE: ISO 7498-2 Information processing systems Open Systems Interconnection; ISO 21091:2013 Health informatics Directory services for healthcare providers, 3.20)

- Search Terms & Definitions: "Integrity" AND product, food, brand, or material goods; Results:
   2000+
- 423 Search Standards: "Integrity": 289

- 425 Several of the findings are included here.
- Integrity: "capability of a product to ensure that the state of its system and data are protected from unauthorized modification or deletion either by malicious action or computer error."

  428 (SOURCE: ISO/IEC 25010:2023 Information technology Systems and software Quality, 3.6.2)
  - Integrity: "property of safeguarding the accuracy and completeness of assets; Note 1 to entry:
     Assets relate to material goods and their primary packaging; Note 2 to entry: Integrity also
     concerns the associated data, information, or the elements and means for their processing."
     (SOURCE: ISO 22300:2018 Authenticity, integrity and trust for products and documents, 3.123;
     ISO 22383:2020, 3.3)
- In addition, there are other ways to explain the attributes.
  - **Quality:** "the degree to which a set of inherent characteristics (3.10.1) of an object (3.6.1) fulfills requirements (3.6.4)" (SOURCE: ISO 9000:2005, 3.1.1)
    - Characteristic (3.10.1): "distinguishing feature; Note 3 to entry: There are various classes of characteristics, such as the following: a) physical (e.g., mechanical, electrical, chemical or biological characteristics); b) sensory (e.g., related to smell, touch, taste, sight, hearing); c) behavioral (e.g. courtesy, honesty, veracity); d) temporal (e.g. punctuality, reliability, availability, continuity); e) ergonomic (e.g. physiological characteristic, or related to human safety); f) functional (e.g. maximum speed of an aircraft)." (SOURCE: ISO 9000:2005, 3.1.1)
    - Object (3.6.1)/ entity/ item: "anything perceivable or conceivable" (SOURCE: ISO 9000:2005, 3.1.1)
    - Requirement (3.6.4): "need or expectation that is stated, generally implied or obligatory; Note 1 to entry: "Generally implied" means that it is custom or common practice for the organization (3.2.1) and interested parties (3.2.3) that the need or expectation under consideration is implied; Note 2 to entry: A specified requirement is one that is stated, for example in documented information (3.8.6)." (SOURCE: ISO 9000:2005, 3.1.1)

Combining the current ISO terms and definitions. A confusing point is the undefined word "quality" in the definition of integrity, which differs from the defined term in ISO 9000. Two options are provided. Option 1 is a narrower focus on the food product and insinuates to cover intentional acts intended to reduce food quality or food safety. Option 2 is a broader focus that insinuates that the product and all organizational activities are honorable (quotes represent the text of a published standard, "<" represents a clarification in the published quote, and "["represents the edit for the new definitions).

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- Food Integrity (Option 1, Adapted ISO definition): "<the property of> of [the food] being complete and unaltered."
- Food Integrity (Option 2, Adapted definition): "the <degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfills requirements> of [the food] being complete and unaltered <as well as in terms of characteristics and requirements>."
- **Summary:** Both definitions of "food integrity" are practical for the two different scopes. A challenge would be to pick one definition that applies universally.

#### Part 5 – Brand Protection

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"Brand protection" is included since it is a related term but one that is not usually widely applied to food products. The results were narrowly applied to a marketing term or to the processes to protect against intellectual property rights infringement and counterfeiting. The term "brand" is widely applied to marketing. "Brand protection" has no mentions or references outside the one anti-counterfeit standard. It is worth noting that the overall vocabulary standard for the Technical Committee that oversees the anti-counterfeit concept did not include the "brand protection" term in the full vocabulary standard. "Brand protection" is a term that ISO applies very narrowly to just the anti-counterfeit area.

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- 478 This is the search for "Brand protection."
- Search Terms & Definitions: "Brand Protection"; Results: 1
- 480 Search Standards: "Brand Protection": Results: 4
- The results in the "Terms & Definitions are presented here:
  - **Brand Protection:** "the process of either protecting brands against counterfeiting or other infringement acts, or both" (ISO/TS 22386:2024(en), 3.1.2 -- Security and resilience Authenticity, integrity, and trust for products and documents Guidelines for **brand)protection** and enforcement procedures).

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- Also, two applications:
  - Brand Protection Manager: "an individual who is responsible for strategizing, planning, conducting and evaluating brand protection activities (3.1.3)" (ISO/TS 22386:2024(en), 3.2.1)
  - **Brand protection activity:** "an event undertaken by a right owner (or on its behalf) for the purpose of brand protection (3.1.2)" (ISO/TS 22386:2024(en), 3.1.3)
- 492 For consideration, the "Scope" to the standard includes:
  - "This document provides guidelines for establishing and enforcing respective measures for **brand protection**. It supports the development of a **brand protection** strategy and describes

a **brand protection** framework for the development, production, and distribution <u>of products</u> <u>and documents</u>. / Applying these guidelines throughout the product lifecycle can facilitate interaction between individuals and organizations involved in **brand protection** activities and can make **brand protection** procedures more effective and efficient. / This document is intended to support the brand owner's business resilience, brand reputation, and brand value by protecting products, documents, and associated services <u>from counterfeiting and other infringements</u>.

A different application seems to have the same definition but a separate term:

• **Brand piracy:** "use of a brand (3.1) without the brand owner's permission" (ISO 22384:2020(en), 3.2 -- Security and resilience — Authenticity, integrity, and trust for products and documents — Guidelines to establish and monitor a protection plan and its implementation)

#### Brand

- Next, to find more possible options, there was a search for "brand."
- Search Terms & Definitions: "Brand;" Results: 3 (two did not apply: one was for tobacco product and another for a mark on hides or skins)
- Search Standards: "Brand"; Results: 492
- 513 The results for this are here:
  - **Brand:** intangible asset, including but not limited to names, terms, signs, symbols, logos, and designs, or a combination of these, intended to identify goods, services, or entities, or a combination of these, creating distinctive images and associations in the minds of stakeholders (3.1.2), thereby generating economic benefit/values (ISO 20671-1:2021(en), 3.8 Brand evaluation Part 1: Principles and fundamentals)
- 519 An application includes:
  - Brand value: worth of a brand as an asset for an entity (ISO 20671-1:2021(en), 3.8)
  - **Brand activities:** non-monetary actions and activities associated with the brand that can have a measurable effect on brand strength (ISO 20671-2:2023(en), 3.2)
- 523 The introduction of the standard provides insight into the application: (ISO 20671-1:2021(en), 3.8)
  - "Brands are one of the most valuable yet least understood assets."
  - "A brand identifies an entity's goods, services or the entity itself as distinct from what is offered by another entity. A brand can thus be connected to an entity, a product/service, lines/portfolios of products, a city, a region, etc. The offering entity can be commercial or notfor-profit. In all cases, however, the function of the brand is to establish a distinctive identity for the entity in the market. In practice this has traditionally implied communicating the unique benefit(s) of the entity's goods or services as compared to other goods or services that might otherwise be seen as similar. This benefit(s) can be functional as well as emotional or

- social. Increasingly, brands also seek identification with experiences that are connected with an entity through its actions, services or other operations. These experiences go beyond the mere usage of the product or service and lead to a higher-level engagement with them. Brands ultimately exist in the minds of stakeholders as the impressions, benefits, and experiences that they associate with a good or service."
- "Brands have value to both, the entities that have rights to the brand and to stakeholders who value the functional/emotional/social benefits and experiences they associate with the brand. The primary purposes of a brand are to increase the total business value of the brandusing entity, reduce risk, and extend the sustainable existence of the brand-owning entity. Even though brands vary markedly in terms of the benefits or experiences that define them, it is undisputable that a strong brand can bring financial benefits. In practice, strong brands attract customers and add revenue through increased price and/or volume premiums including repeat purchase loyalty. More broadly it is also the case that brands can reduce costs and create a competitive advantage in the minds of stakeholders. A brand thus has an impact on revenue and profitability and can influence corporate value."
- The ISO application in the brand standard is broadly applied to all value whereas "brand protection" in the "Security & Resilience" standard only applies to intellectual property rights violations of counterfeit infringement.

#### **Product Protection**

- Although not defined or applied in more detail, some anti-counterfeiting standards referred to 553 "product protection" seemingly interchangeably with "brand protection."
- Search Terms & Definitions: "Product protection:" Results: 1
- Search Standards: "Product protection"; Results: 20
- Note that the term "product protection" had only one definition, and it did not apply to products such as food.
  - Product protection / environmental protection: protection of a product against climatic or other ad-verse conditions during its use, transport, or storage; ISO/IEC Guide 2:2004(en), 2.7
     Standardization and related activities — General vocabulary)
  - Also, other mentions in standards included one:
    - ISO 22384:2020(en) Security and resilience Authenticity, integrity, and trust for products and documents — Guidelines to establish and monitor a protection plan and its implementation
    - Protection plan: "a set of coordinated measures to treat risks to an asset or a set of assets."
    - 5.1 Establish project team
      - "The organization should set up the work on developing **product protection** measures as a project. The organization should select a project team that includes internal..."

Summary: The terms of "brand protection" or "product protection" do not apply to the food fraud, food defense, or related food topics. Specifically, "brand protection" only applies to intellectual property rights and counterfeit infringement.

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# CONCLUSION

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- When new concepts emerge, formal ISO-published "Terms & Definitions" are often unavailable. 576 577 However, definitions can be derived from existing ISO standards or foundational terms. To prevent 578 misunderstandings, it is essential to thoroughly analyze how these terms are used across various 579 laws, regulations, industry standards, certifications, and everyday language before finalizing an
- 580 official ISO definition.
- 581 For instance, if non-ISO references are not considered, then the term "food fraud" can be directly 582 adapted from the definition of "product fraud" by simply substituting "product" with "food." However, 583 future ISO definitions for food defense, food protection, and food integrity should be based on 584 established industry practices rather than solely relying on previously defined ISO terms or unrelated 585 standards. This approach ensures greater relevance and alignment with real-world applications.

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# ISO Committee Approaches for Defining Food Fraud

- 588 When developing definitions for key terms such as "food fraud" and "food defense," an ISO 589 committee has several viable options to consider. Below, we explore the most common 590 methods for creating standardized definitions in ISO-based systems:
  - 1. ISO-Based Definitions
- 592 One approach is to build a definition based on existing related ISO terms. For "food fraud," 593 this would involve merging the ISO definition of "food" with that of "product fraud." This 594 ensures consistency across ISO standards and helps integrate food fraud into existing 595 standards frameworks.

#### 2. Using Standard Definitions

Another effective strategy is to adopt a widely recognized definition from other established 597 598 standards. For example, several ISO definitions cite Black's Law Dictionary or other outside 599 ISO references. For "food fraud," ISO could use the definition of the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), which is commonly used and already used in industry-wide standards and 600 certifications. GFSI serves as the benchmark for most of the world's leading food safety management systems, including FSSC 22000, BRC/BRCGS, IFS, SQF, and others. GFSI's 602

603 formal definition of food fraud has been published since 2017 and required for compliance 604 in 2018, along with compliance requirements for vulnerability assessment and prevention 605 strategies.

#### 3. Referencing Existing Standards or Codes

A third approach is to reference definitions from established standards or codes that have already been published. However, many widely adopted standards lack formal definitions for key terms. For instance, the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) has a "working definition," but it was developed solely for an internal working group. Similarly, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) provides a "working definition" for "economically motivated adulteration" (EMA) rather than a formal definition of "food fraud." The FDA's EMA definition, created to guide discussions at a 2009 public meeting, categorizes EMA as a specific type of food fraud (adulterant-substance). Meanwhile, Codex Alimentarius (CODEX)—the international food standards body led by the United Nations (UN/FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO)—has an Electronic Work Group (EWG) focused on food fraud, though their official guidance has yet to be finalized. [10, 12, 13]

#### 4. Citing Published Scholarly Works

- 619 Another option is to refer to a published scholarly work such as a journal article. Food fraud 620 was first the subject of a scholarly research project and publication in 2009. A 2024 WTO publication stated: "At present, the most well-known and widely accepted definition of food 621 622 fraud is by Spink and Moyer (2011): "Food fraud is a collective term used to encompass the deliberate and intentional substitution, addition, tampering, or misrepresentation of food, 623 624 food ingredients, food packaging; or false or misleading statements." (WTO Illicit Trade in
- 625 Food referring to [2])

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#### 5. Creating a Unique Definition

- 627 In most cases, ISO standards may develop their own definitions for very specific 628 management systems or standards. While this is a valid approach, it is not typically 629 necessary in the context of food fraud, as existing definitions provide sufficient clarity.
- Creating another definition could lead to confusion and inconsistency. 630
- 631 This definition has been widely adopted and continues to serve as a foundational reference 632 for food fraud research and policymaking.

# Appendix – Review of the term "Food Fraud" in ISO standards

636 637	As of February 18, 2025, this is a list of ISO standards that include the "food fraud" term. It is often a requirement. There is no formal definition of "food fraud" or "food fraud prevention."
638 639	The ISO 22000 series – specifically ISO 22002-100 – directly addresses "food fraud" and "food frauc
640	prevention." There is no formal entry in the "Terms & Definitions" section of any standard.
641	provention. There is the format only in the forme a Bennition of content of any standard.
642	Other standards mention "food fraud" as an application, such as for blockchain traceability
643	cannabis products, social responsibility, and molecular biomarker analysis.
644	
345	Product fraud is directly addressed and defined in "Security & Resilience," but the only "food fraud
646	mention is in a bibliography citation:
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648	[Legend: A year confirmed when the standard was published. "DIS" is a "draft international standard"
649	that is not finalized. "IWA" is an "international workshop agreement" that is the conclusion of the
350	attendees of that meeting. "TR" is a "technical report" that is created for guidance but is not a forma
651 652	standard and did not go through the overall ISO approval process.]
352 353	<ul> <li>ISO 22380:2018(en) Security and resilience — Authenticity, integrity, and trust for</li> </ul>
353 354	products and documents — General principles for product fraud risk and countermeasures
355	Bibliography
356	•10 [14] Spink J. Moyer D.C. Defining the Public Health Threat of <i>Food</i>
357	Fraud. Journal of Food Science. 2011, 75 ( 9 ), pp. 57
658	<ul><li>Others:</li></ul>
659	• [13] Spink J., Moyer D.C., Park H., Heinonen J., Defining the Types
660	of Counterfeiters, Counterfeiting, Offender Organizations. Crime
661	Science Journal. 2013, 2(8), pp. 1–10
662	<ul> <li>[14] Spink J., Moyer D.C., Defining the Public Health Threat of</li> </ul>
663	Food Fraud. Journal of Food Science. 2011, 75(9), pp. 57–63
664	• [15] Spink J., Moyer D.C., Park H., Heinonen J., Defining the Types
365	of Counterfeiters, Counterfeiting, Offender Organizations. Crime
366	Science Journal. 2013, 2(8), pp. 1–10
367 369	• [16] Spink J., Moyer D.C., Park H., Heinonen J., Development of a
668 669	Product Counterfeiting Clustering Tool (PCICT). Crime Science Journal. 2014, 3(3), pp. 1–8
370 370	30diπat. 2014, 3(3), pp. 1–0
671	Food Safety/ ISO 22000 Series
672	
673	• ISO/DIS 22002-100(en) Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 100: PRP
674	requirements common for food, feed, and packaging supply chain
675	<ul> <li>[Note: "Food fraud" or "food defense" are not mentioned in the introduction, scope,</li> </ul>
676	or terms and definitions. Bullet points are used to preserve the numbering system
677	used in the standard. There are examples of the type of acts for both food fraud and
678	food defense and no definitive or all-inclusive list for both or either term.]
679	o 16 Food defense and food fraud
	Review of ISO Terms and Definitions Related to Food Fraud (v28) 20   P a g e

680	0	'16.1 General
681	0	The organization shall implement and maintain measures to protect products from
682		intentional acts that may include, but are not limited to:
683	0	'a) sabotage and terrorism;
684	0	'b) mislabeling, counterfeiting and tampering;
685	0	'c) vandalism and theft.
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687	0	'16.2 Food defense
886	0	The organization shall:
689	0	'a) determine or select the methodology to evaluate the significance of threats;
690	0	'b) conduct a threat assessment to identify and evaluate potential threats and
691		identify and select proportionate mitigation measures covering its processes and
692		products;
693	0	'c) document the threat assessment, mitigation measures, and verification
694		procedures in a food defense plan;
695	0	'd) implement the food defense plan, including effective training, communication,
696		and periodic review.
697	0	NOTE: Mitigation measures include building and infrastructure design to prevent
698		unauthorized entry; reference checks for personnel; control of confidential
699		information; security of storage and production areas; transport and distribution;
700		supplier and external provider assurance, including requirements for food defense.
701	0	Annex A contains examples of food Defense measures.
702		
703	0	'16.3 Food fraud prevention
704	0	The organization shall:
705	0	'a) determine or select the methodology to evaluate the significance of
706		vulnerabilities;
707	0	'b) conduct a food fraud vulnerability assessment identifying potential
708		vulnerabilities and identify and select proportionate mitigation measures covering
709		its processes and products;
710	0	'c) document the vulnerability assessment, mitigation measures, and verification
711		procedures in a food fraud prevention plan;
712	0	'd) implement the food fraud prevention plan, including effective training,
713		communication, and periodic review.
714	0	NOTE: Factors to consider when conducting a food fraud vulnerability assessment
715		include economic vulnerability, historical data, ease of detectability, access to raw
716		materials, packaging materials, and finished products in the supply chain;
717		relationship with the supplier; supplier and external provider assurance inclusive of
718		requirements for food fraud and complexity of the supply chain.
719	0	Annex B contains examples of food fraud mitigation measures.
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722 • 723 724 725 726 727	<ul> <li>ISO 22000:2018(en) - Food safety management systems — Requirements for any organization in the food chain</li> <li>4.1 Understanding the organization and its context</li> <li>, competitive, market, cultural, social and economic environments, cybersecurity and <i>food fraud</i>, food defence and intentional contamination, knowledge and performance of the</li> </ul>
728 729 • 730 731	ISO/DIS 22002-4(en) Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 4: Food packaging manufacturing  o 16.3 <i>Food fraud</i>
732 733 • 734 735 736 737 738 739	ISO 22003-2:2022(en) Food safety — Part 2: Requirements for bodies providing evaluation and certification of products, processes, and services, including an audit of the food safety system  O C.1 General O, but not limited to: X X — outsourced processes; — food defence; — <i>food fraud</i> .  13. Ability to apply food chain (sub)category practices and vocabulary in relation
741 • 742 743 744 745 746	ISO 22003-1:2022(en) Food safety — Part 1: Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems  Oc.1 General  mathrice in the control of the certification of food safety management systems  mathrice in the control of the certification of the certification of food safety management systems  mathrice in the certification of food safety management systems  mathrice in the certification of food safety management systems  mathrice in the certification of food safety management systems  mathrice in the certification of food safety management systems  mathrice in the certification of food safety management systems  mathrice in the certification of food safety management systems  mathrice in the certification of food safety management systems  mathrice in the certification of food safety management systems  mathrice in the certification of the certification of safety management systems  mathrice in the certification of safety mathrice in the
747 • 748 749	ISO/DIS 22002-7(en) - Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 7: Retail  o 16.3 <i>Food fraud</i>
750 • 751 752 753	ISO/DIS 22002-2(en)  o Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 2: Catering  o 16.3 <i>Food fraud</i>
754 • 755 756 757	ISO/DIS 22002-6(en) - Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 6: Feed and animal food production  o 16.3 <i>Food fraud</i>
758 • 759 760 761	ISO/DIS 22002-1(en) - Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 1: Food manufacturing  o 16.3 <i>Food fraud</i>
762 • 763 764	ISO/DIS 22002-5(en) - Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 5: Transport and storage  o 16.3 <i>Food fraud</i>

765 766 Other non-ISO 22000 entries: 767 768 ISO/ IWA 37-3:2022(en) - Safety, security, and sustainability of cannabis facilities and 769 operations — Part 3: Good production practices (GPP) 770 o Annex B Guidance on applying GPP to cannabis edibles 771 ...retained. Guidance on traceability system design and implementation can be 772 found in ISO 22005. Food fraud (—) The organization shall undertake a food 773 fraud...food fraud ... 774 775 ISO/TS 26030:2019(en) - Social responsibility and sustainable development — Guidance on 776 using ISO 26000:2010 in the food chain 777 Issue 3: Identification of and demonstration of compliance with applicable 778 legal requirements 779 ...applicable to its activity that covers: — food safety, food quality, food security, 780 food fraud, and food defense; — health and safety at work; — management of 781 human resources... 782 783 ISO 17174:2024(en) - Molecular biomarker analysis — DNA barcoding of fish and fish 784 products using defined mitochondrial cytochrome b and cytochrome c oxidase I gene 785 segments 786 Introduction ...authentication of fish products is necessary to ensure consumer protection and 787 788 the detection of potential food fraud. 789 ISO/TR 3242:2022(en) - Blockchain and distributed ledger technologies – Use cases 790 6.3 Supply Chain Cases 791 ...and resilience within the supply chain. Keywords: Food Supply Chain, Agriculture 792 produced *food fraud*, Made in Italy Protection, Italian Manufacturing Protection, 793 Food companies, Food Service... 794

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<sup>i</sup> As a reference, Google AI provides a much broader definition of integrity and the application to products including food: "*Product integrity* is a product's ability to meet or exceed customer expectations for quality, performance, and durability throughout its life. It can also refer to the wholeness or completeness of a product being produced. Product integrity can involve all aspects of a product's existence, from production to retirement, and can affect anyone who comes into contact with it."

As a reference, Google AI provides a related definition: "*Brand integrity* is a measure of how well a company's values, actions, and communications align with what it promises consumers. It's about being consistent across all touchpoints, so customers can expect a consistent experience that's true to the brand's values. Brands with high integrity are honest and create a replicable experience for customers."

Harvard Business Review, "*Product integrity* is much broader than basic functionality or technical performance. Customers who have accumulated experience with a product expect new models to balance basic functions and economy with more subtle characteristics. Consumers expect new products to harmonize with their values and lifestyles. Industrial customers expect them to mesh with existing components in a work system or a production process. The extent to which a new product achieves this balance is a measure of its integrity." ("Product integrity has both an internal and an external dimension. Internal integrity refers to the consistency between a product's function and its structure: the parts fit smoothly, the components match and work well together, the layout maximizes the available space." ("External integrity refers to the consistency between a product's performance and customers' expectations." (<a href="https://hbr.org/1990/11/the-power-of-product-integrity">https://hbr.org/1990/11/the-power-of-product-integrity</a>)

From a ChatGPT prompt developed and refined by the author, Professor Chris Elliott of Queen's University Belfast offers a more detailed perspective, defining **food integrity** as ensuring that "the food we produce is safe; the food we produce is authentic; it is nutritious; the systems we use to produce our food are sustainable; our food is produced to the highest ethical standards, and we respect the environment and those who work in our food industry."

The term "food integrity" lacks a single, universally accepted definition. Its interpretation varies among professionals, with some focusing on safety and authenticity, while others emphasize sustainability and ethics. This variability suggests that the definition is more informal and context-dependent, rather than a standardized formal definition.