

BUREAU VERITAS CERTIFICATION SERVICES

VEGAN/VEGETARIAN

CERTIFICATION

PRODUCT SUITABLE FOR VEGAN AND VEGETARIAN USE

“A clear identification is needed of the origin of food products that confirms the absence of products of animal origin”

BUSINESS CHALLENGE

In 2023, it was estimated that around **3.2% of the European population is vegan or vegetarian**, more than **2.6 million people**. Whether for health reasons, environmental sensitivity, or due to respect for animals or other reasons, a significant part of the population has decided not to include products of animal origin in their diet and in their shopping basket.

CERTIFIED
VEGAN
BY BV



Consumers today have more choice than ever before, which makes the job of selecting what to eat both more interesting and more challenging. For those who have adopted a vegan or vegetarian lifestyle, the most important factor in their decision will be whether or not they can trust that foodstuffs are truly devoid of animal products.

In recent years, shoppers have learned that labels cannot always be trusted. In the UK, for example, a recent investigation found that, of those tested, one in three foods labeled vegan contained animal products. In addition, inspectors found that nine in 10 products, including 13 dairy alternatives and 48 meat alternatives, marked as vegan contained inaccuracies in labeling and nutritional information. This is concerning for those who have made the choice not to eat animal-source products, and even more worrying for people living with allergies.



However, despite such scandals that lead to the coining of terms like veganwashing, consumers have no choice but to rely on product claims to make food choices. This is especially true since legal regulation around vegan claims is still lacking. What sets products apart for consumers is a recognized, international label. A familiar stamp is a way to signal to customers that the producer has taken the necessary steps to validate its vegan or vegetarian claims, and ensure peace of mind when purchasing.



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RELATED SERVICES

In addition to the Vegan Certification, Bureau Veritas can assist you in the compliance of a wide range of standards, such as:



HOW TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGE OF IDENTIFYING WHAT PRODUCTS ARE SUITABLE FOR VEGAN USE?

Food producers are confronted with multiple standards and certifications to choose from, and they can differ across supply chains, operations and countries. To ensure their full value chain is aligned, they are simply looking for a “one-size-fits-all” standard they can follow, adhere to and trust.

International companies need a solution to ensure that all suppliers around the world are meeting the same requirements and expectations. Since products are distributed to multiple destinations, companies must guarantee that a standardized product is reaching consumers in different regions.

By choosing to work with a certification body and adopting a consistent method to certify their products, producers can reduce the risk of non-conformity and facilitate compliance. This equally simplifies the certification process – ultimately saving both time and money while gaining a competitive advantage.

We at Bureau Veritas offer you a simple tool, based on our own Regulation that includes the control of raw materials, ingredients and suppliers, a production process and final product control system, and analytical plan for the customer, as well as sampling carried out by our auditors which are always analysed in a competent laboratory. If a non-compliance is detected, the organisation must include an action plan that resolves the detected incidents, and which must be approved by the audit team as in any other control system.

WHY CHOOSE BUREAU VERITAS SERVICES?



Experience in the Agri-Food Sector

Bureau Veritas provides a team of experts in the field of certification of food safety, organic production, Minimisation of Food Waste, as well as responsible supply chains such as the MSC / ASC, RSPO or RainForest Alliance, Self-control systems for export, as well as numerous other management systems for all types of quality, health and safety and environmental organisations.



Team

The audit and inspection personnel are highly qualified. Bureau Veritas' technical experts in food supply chain and processing have developed the framework to ensure a consistent and trusted standard to support vegan/ vegetarian processing foods.



Globally recognised mark

The Bureau Veritas mark is a globally recognised symbol due to its commitment to excellence, sustainability and reliability. It has more than 80,000 people working in more than 140 countries. Thanks to this global network, Bureau Veritas customers benefit from their experience and solid specialist knowledge at international level.

For more information:
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BUREAU
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Shaping a World of Trust