Definitions (Based on the HQC HAP Scheme)

Version 2.0

Subject to amendments and updates

Halal

Permissible/allowed in accordance with the Islamic Law.

Haram

Forbidden in accordance with the Islamic Law.

General Haram Terms

i. Pork and its by-products: All parts of the pig, including pork meat, ham, bacon, lard, and certain types of gelatin, among others, are haram.
ii. Alcohol and intoxicants: All types of alcoholic beverages, including beer, wine, whiskey, vodka, and any foods or drinks containing alcohol, are haram. Drugs that are used for recreational purposes and cause harm are also haram.
iii. Carnivorous animals and birds of prey: Animals with fangs, such as lions, dogs, wolves, and cats, and birds with sharp claws, such as eagles and hawks, are considered haram.
iv. Dead animals and blood: Animals that have not been slaughtered according to Islamic law, have died of natural causes, or were killed by other animals are haram. Blood is also considered haram.
v. Animals slaughtered in the name of anything other than God: If an animal is slaughtered in the name of anything or anyone other than God (Allah SWT), it is considered haram.

General Impurities, also known as Najis

i. Pork and its by-products: This includes all parts of the pig, as well as any food products made from pig-derived ingredients (like certain types of gelatin or lard).
ii. Dead animals: Animals that have died without being properly slaughtered according to Islamic law (Dhabihah) are considered impure. This also includes animals that died of natural causes or were killed by other animals.
iii. Blood: Consuming blood is considered impure. This includes any food products that contain blood.
iv. Carnivorous animals and birds of prey: Animals that have fangs and birds that have talons are generally considered impure and are not to be eaten.
v. Alcohol and intoxicants: Any substance that causes intoxication is considered impure, and this includes alcohol. Even foods that contain small amounts of alcohol (such as certain flavor extracts) can be considered impure.
vi. Animals not sacrificed in the name of God: Animals must be slaughtered while invoking the name of God (Allah SWT). If the name of anything or anyone other than God is invoked at the time of slaughter, the animal is considered impure, but not deemed as Haram when meats other than pork are present within the production facility.
vii. Idolatry: Anything that is directly associated with idolatry is considered impure.

Risks

This term refers to anything that might jeopardize the halal status of a product or service. It includes harmful products, services, machines, suppliers, processes, or activities that could cause a halal product or service to be considered haram or non-halal. This could be due to contamination or any other factor that makes the product or service unacceptable according to Halal standards.

Halal Control Points

These are checkpoints where additional control can be applied to ensure halal compliance. This might involve checking the ingredients used, the cleanliness of the equipment, the method of production, and so on.

Halal Critical Control Points

These are steps in the production or handling process where visual control is essential to prevent or eliminate any risk that could compromise the halal status of the product or service. This might involve inspecting the product or the process to ensure there's no contamination or other issues that could make the product haram.

Halal Training

This is an educational program provided by the HQC Academy for HQC customers and employees.
The sessions are designed to educate a company on how to set up the Halal Assurance System (HAP). The goal is to ensure that the company understands and can effectively implement the standards and controls needed to maintain Halal status for its products or services.

Equipment and Utensils

This term refers to all the tools and items used in the manufacturing process that come into contact with the end product or any of its raw materials. This includes machinery, production lines, clothing, pipelines, crates, and so on. These items must be properly cleaned and maintained to avoid any contamination that might compromise the halal status of the product.

Product / Service

i. An item composed of multiple or singular ingredients.
ii. A manufacturing process or a central kitchen.
iii. A slaughtering plant.
iv. Logistics and storage facilities.
v. Trading and labeling activities

Private Label

This refers to products that are manufactured by a third party (also known as a toll manufacturer), but are owned or copyrighted by a company that does not have its own manufacturing site. The company that owns the brand and copyright sells the product under its own label.

Halal Certificates [multiple definitions could apply]

i. A certificate of conformity issued by a competent and accredited third party.
ii. A statement of conformity.
iii. Licensing the rights to make use of the Halal mark/logo.
iv. A certificate of conformity for a single batch of products.

Third-Party Halal Certificates
These are Halal certificates that are issued by organizations other than the Halal Quality Control Group. These certificates serve as proof that a product or service meets the necessary Halal standards, as determined by the issuing organization.

Halal Certification Bodies
These are entities that have been accredited or recognized with the authority to issue Halal certificates to manufacturing sites. They assess whether a product or service complies with Halal standards and, if it does, provide a certificate to attest to its halal status.++

Halal Accreditation Bodies
These are the authorities that have the power to accredit Halal Certification Bodies. In other words, they are the entities that verify and endorse the legitimacy and competence of Halal Certification Bodies, ensuring that these bodies are capable of reliably determining whether a product or service is Halal.

Halal Mark or Logo
This is an approved mark or logo from the Halal Quality Control Group (or other recognized entity) that is granted to a product, service, or system that has been successfully certified as halal. The presence of this mark or logo on a product's packaging indicates to consumers that the product is halal.

Fatwa
A legal ruling on a point of the Islamic Law provided by a qualified Islamic jurist.