

THE GUYANA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

MADE IN GUYANA CERTIFICATION MARK PROGRAMME

The Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Act No. 11 of 1984 authorizes the GNBS to use its Made in Guyana Certification Mark on products with set criteria and comply with the terms and conditions of the Made in Guyana Certification Mark Programme.

An objective of the GNBS as stated in Act No. 11 of 1984, Part II 4 (e) is *‘to control, in accordance with the provisions of this Act the use of Standardization marks, and distinctive marks.’* In accordance with this objective of the GNBS, the organisation conducts its Product Certification services for the manufacturing industry as an independently operated body under the Ministry of Tourism, Industry and Commerce.

The **Made in Guyana Certification Mark Programme** is voluntary and available to all local Manufacturers with authentic Guyanese products that is desirous of being certified under this programme.

WHAT IS THE “MADE IN GUYANA CERTIFICATION MARK”?

The Made in Guyana Certification Mark is used to distinguish authentic Guyanese products that meet establish criteria as outlined by the Made in Guyana Certification Mark Programme requirements and tested in accordance with these criteria for non-certified Guyanese products.

Any manufacturer desirous of marketing their product(s) using this mark must comply with the Terms and Conditions of the use of the **Made in Guyana Certification Mark**.

The Made in Guyana Certification Mark is a registered mark that aims to provide recognition to locally manufactured products on the national and international market.

OBJECTIVES OF THE “MADE IN GUYANA CERTIFICATION MARK PROGRAMME”

1. To create national competitiveness for authentic Guyanese produced products certified under the Programme.
2. To promote and create brand recognition of locally manufactured Guyanese Products on markets.
3. Positioning Guyana as a tourism destination with successful nation branding “Made In Guyana” with its unique locally manufactured products that are associated with authentic Guyanese culture.
4. To establish consumer confidence in locally made Guyanese products.

PERIOD OF USAGE FOR THE MADE IN GUYANA CERTIFICATION MARK

The period of certification is one year with two surveillance audits and one renewal of audit to be conducted during the certification period. These audits will be conducted to ensure users continue to conform to the established criteria.

PROCEDURE FOR THE MADE IN GUYANA CERTIFICATION MARK PROGRAMME

Stages	Activity
1	The manufacturer completes the request form and submits it to the Head, Certification Services Department.
2	<p>The Certification Services Department evaluates the request form to determine whether the manufacturer has the established criteria for the product to qualify for the Made in Guyana Certification Mark. If the manufacturer's request form is incomplete, the manufacturer is informed, and the request form is sent to the manufacturer to be completed.</p> <p>After reviewing the manufacturer's completed request form, the manufacturer would be formally notified whether their application was approved or rejected. If an application is rejected, substantial reason(s) will be provided.</p>
3	<p>The information on the request form is used to prepare a costing for the Made in Guyana Certification Mark service. The costing is sent to the manufacturer for payments to be made to the GNBS one (1) month before the audit date.</p> <p>The manufacturer must submit to the GNBS, all necessary documentation pertaining to the product(s) the manufacturer requests for certification one (1) month before the audit date.</p>
4	The Head, Certification Services Department assigns the audit team, and the initial audit date is determined. The manufacturer is formally informed by the GNBS of the initial audit date and the members of the audit team.
5	The Audit Team assesses the manufacturer, after which the Team prepares a report of the findings and submit it to the Head, Certification Services for review.
6	When approval is granted, the manufacturer is formally informed by the GNBS along with the terms and conditions of license to use the Made in Guyana Certification Mark. If approval is not granted, the manufacturer is formally informed with reason(s) by the GNBS.
7	<p>Arrangements would be made for the formal hand-over of the certificate, and signatures to the terms and conditions between the GNBS and the manufacturer.</p> <p>The GNBS would inform the public that the manufacturer is permitted to use the Made in Guyana Certification Mark.</p>
8	<p>Surveillance audits would be conducted during the one-year certification period.</p> <p>Companies certified to ISO 9001 and ISO 22000 must provide a copy of their certificate to the GNBS from their registrar or certifying body to eliminate the surveillance audits.</p>

CRITERIA FOR THE MADE IN GUYANA CERTIFICATION MARK

No.	Requirements	Criteria	Records/Evidence
1	Raw materials	Origin- at least 60% raw materials from Guyana Suppliers' evaluation or application of the rules of origin	-List of raw materials and their source. -Records showing that the raw materials are grown/manufacture in Guyana.
2	Origin of staff	At least 70% of the staff must be Guyanese	-Staff must be Guyanese and living in Guyana. -If the staff is not Guyanese by birth, then the staff must be a permanent resident living in Guyana for at least seven (7) years.
3	Established turn-around times	-	-Established KPIs/targets. -Requests must match the results.
4	System for complaints	-	-System for complaints and feedback. The manufacturer must show evidence of complaints being addressed and resolved promptly (according to a specific time period they establish).
5	Product/ sample testing	Approved/accepted test methods Equipment verified/calibrated for in-house testing (where applicable) Testing is done at a certified or accredited laboratory (where applicable)	-Results of testing (where applicable). -If ingredients are purchased from certified companies, evidence of same must be produced on request.
Companies certified to ISO 9001 and ISO 22000 must provide a copy of their certificate from their registrar or certifying body to eliminate the surveillance audits.			

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