

# Seafood Chain-of-Custody

## MSC and ASC CoC Certification

SCS Global Services is the leading provider of Chain-of-Custody (CoC) certifications under the MSC and ASC programs, both internationally acclaimed as the most trusted certifications for recognizing sustainably managed fish and seafood products.



The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification program rewards sustainable fishing practices and business operations, and the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) certification program focuses on responsible aquaculture production. The MSC and ASC eco-labels will help your seafood products stand out in the marketplace.

As an accredited conformance assessment body, SCS verifies the traceability of fish and seafood throughout the entire supply chain. A CoC certification will enable you to use the MSC and/or ASC ecolabels on your seafood products, which are increasingly valued by seafood wholesalers, retailers and consumers.

### BENEFITS OF CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY CERTIFICATION

Some of the world's largest retailers now require their suppliers to be MSC and ASC certified in response to growing consumer demand for sustainable seafood.

By becoming CoC certified, your business will be able to:

- Gain a competitive edge in the marketplace by meeting customer demand for certified products.
- Reduce risk by assuring yourself and your customers that certified fish comes from legal and environmentally responsible sources.
- Help protect the marine environment and secure fish stocks for the future.
- Promote your products with consumer-facing sustainability labeling.

for information about becoming certified or locating certified products:

[SCSglobalServices.com/seafoodCoC](https://www.SCSglobalServices.com/seafoodCoC)

tel +1.510.452.8000

[SeafoodCoC@scsglobalservices.com](mailto:SeafoodCoC@scsglobalservices.com)



## CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY CERTIFICATION PROCESS

SCS guides companies through the CoC certification. Seafood handlers must develop a comprehensive set of procedures to maintain control of certified material from purchase to sale, keep accurate records, and ensure that the certification label is affixed only to certified seafood.

- 1. Submit application.** Submit an application to SCS. We will work with your company to develop a proposal and contract agreement.
- 2. Pre-audit assistance.** SCS provides guidance on developing procedures to ensure traceability of products and on segregating certified products from uncertified products. Through this process, SCS determines your company's readiness for a CoC audit.
- 3. On-site audit.** The SCS auditor visits your facilities, reviews traceability procedures and prepares an audit report.
- 4. Audit Review.** SCS reviews the audit report for compliance with the applicable CoC standard and makes a certification determination. CoC certification is granted for three years and requires periodic surveillance audits. SCS may request corrective actions as necessary.
- 5. Certification Issuance.** If your company has achieved certification, SCS will provide you with an official CoC certificate.
- 6. Assistance with product labeling and maintenance.** Once certified, your company may begin promoting and selling certified products. Your company is also eligible to enter into a license agreement to use the MSC and/or ASC ecolabel on packaging and in promotions.

## WHO SHOULD SEEK CERTIFICATION?

The MSC and ASC eco-labels can be used by any company in the seafood supply chain, including:

- Restaurants
- Wholesalers
- Grocers
- Distributors
- Caterers
- Auction Houses
- Dining Facilities
- Processors
- Cold Stores

## CHOOSE SCS

SCS Global Services (SCS) has nearly three decades of experience certifying environmental, social, health and safety claims and is recognized globally for integrity, scientific rigor and true independence. As the first certifier to be MSC accredited more than 10 years ago, SCS has the experience, knowledge and professionalism to skillfully guide you through the assessment process. SCS provides:

- Unmatched professional expertise and knowledge.
- Personalized service tailored to meet your needs.
- An efficient audit at a competitive price. Convenience of combining MSC or ASC Chain-of-Custody audits with HACCP inspections.