



ECTA Responsible Care Workshop



SQAS for a Sustainable Future

12 September 2019

Victor Trapani



SQAS 2019: successful launching



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- **SQAS 2019 was launched on 1/01/19**
 - **Some issues were reported with the new software for assessors**
 - **New version of the software and PAD launched on 7 Sept**

Main changes in SQAS 2019



1. Cefic stopped issuing SQAS attestations
2. New recommendation about consecutive assessments
3. More information in the new PAD
4. New software for assessors



“SQAS
certification”
search in
Google: 1570
entries!!

Google "sqas certification" Search

All Images News Videos Maps More Settings Tools

About 1.570 results (0,24 seconds)

SQAS Certification | Logistics [redacted]
<https://www.sgsgroup.de> > ... > Quality Health Safety And Environment > Quality >
Safety and Quality Assessment System (SQAS) certification [redacted] ensure you meet SQAS requirements when transporting dangerous goods. Discover ...

SQAS certification for [redacted]
<https://www.essers.com> > Home > News >
Following a successful audit on 24 and 25 February 2015, we are pleased to announce that [redacted] as attained SQAS certification with an.

SQAS certification [redacted]
<https://www.skanol.com/en/hse-and-occupational.../sqas-certification-en/> >
In order to protect the environment, employees in the chemical industry in Europe have drawn up a set of specific guidelines for the type of control that transport, ...

SQAS Certification, Wash tanks SQAS quality certification - [redacted]
<https://ctwservices.net/en/sqas-certification/> >
SQAS Certification, Wash tanks SQAS chemical and boxes of food [redacted] certification is subject to the most exacting market ...

CERTIFICATES [redacted]
www.sitaksdolphinproductions.be/vervaeker/?page_id=127 >
SQAS certification Transport Services - SQAS certification Tank Cleaning Zellik - SQAS certification Tank Cleaning Spiere - KIWA certification - ECTA commitment ...

[redacted] **SQAS certification** [redacted]
<https://www.jgt.nl/overons.php?onderwerp=18&lang=eng> > Translate this page
SQAS certification. Your chemical and liquid transports are safe in the hands of [redacted] has been SQAS (Safety and Quality Assessments Systems) certified ...

Main changes in SQAS 2019



1. Cefic stopped issuing SQAS attestations.
 - a) The reason for this change was to avoid the confusion that still exists between an SQAS attestation and a certificate.
 - b) **SQAS is not a certificate**
 - c) The use of the logo of '**SQAS Assessed Company**' is still allowed.
 - d) Assessed companies can demonstrate that they were SQAS assessed by sending to SQAS users the **SQAS Summary Report** and inviting them to read the full report

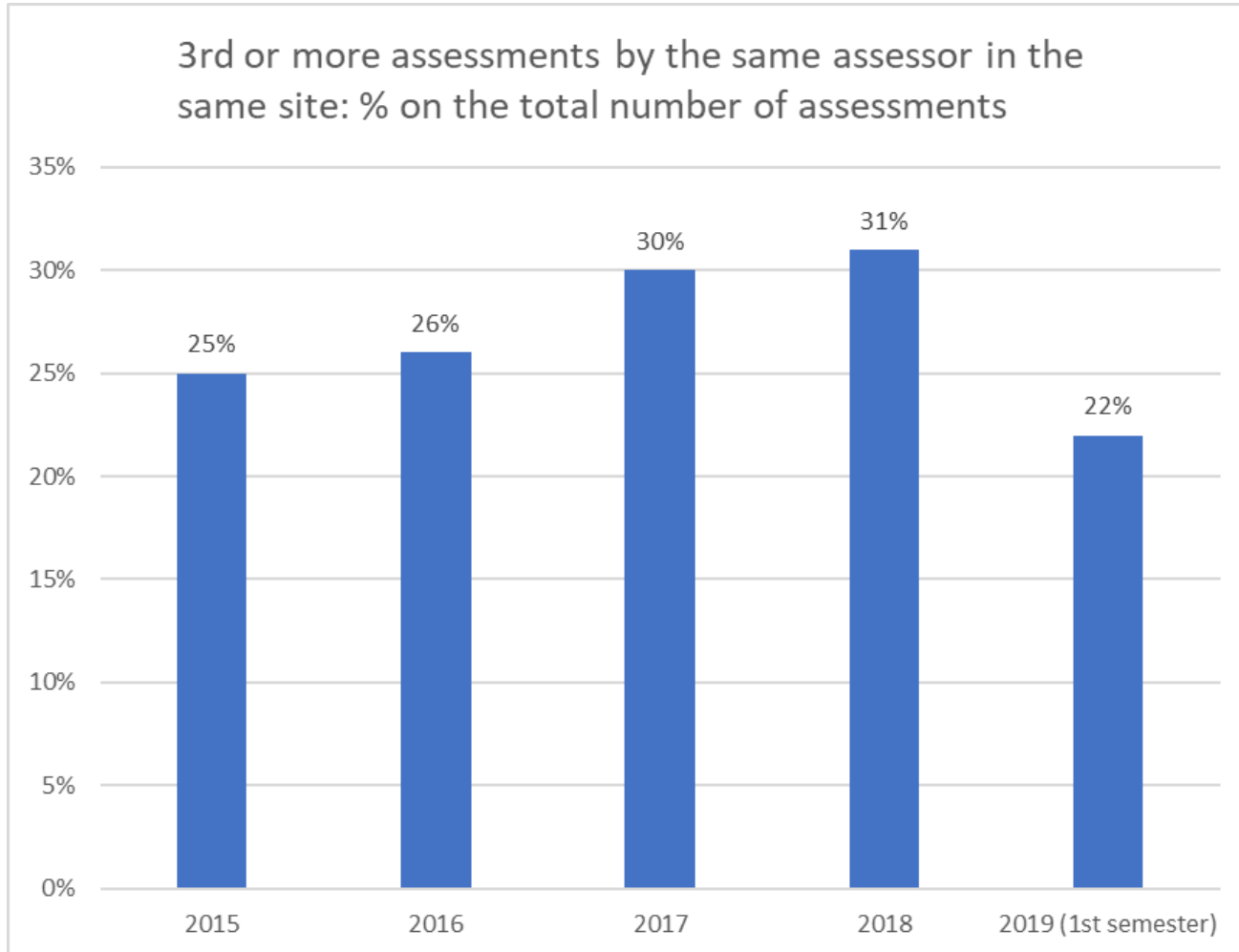
Main changes in SQAS 2019



2. New recommendation about consecutive assessments:

- Cefic “strongly recommends” that SQAS assessors do not carry out more than two consecutive assessments at the same site. The previous reference to this subject in the SQAS Accreditation Manual was only a “recommendation”.
- The SQAS Executive Committee believes that a long-term relationship between an assessed company and an assessor could have a negative impact on the quality of the SQAS assessments. We asked for the cooperation of assessed companies and assessors to implement this change

“Strong recommendation” about consecutive assessments carried out by the same assessor at the same site: status of implementation





Main changes in SQAS 2019

3. More information in the new PAD:

The new PAD incorporates more relevant information on subcontracting. See example below from section 0.3.9

Type of transport	Number of subcontracted companies	Tonnage of chemicals transported (in tons per year)	% of chemicals transported
Own transport		6046025	77%
FIS (Fully Integrated Subcontractors)	0	0	0%
NIS (Non-Integrated Subcontractors)- SQAS assessed	107	449658	6%
NIS - non SQAS assessed	321	1361140	17%
SPOT - SQAS assessed	0	0	0%
SPOT - non SQAS assessed	0	0	0%
TOTAL		7856823	100%



Main changes in SQAS 2019

4. New software for assessors:

- The SQAS software used by SQAS assessors was replaced by a web version.
- This will allow faster reaction to change the questionnaires and to software updates.

Recognition of SQAS by TfS



- Cefic and TfS signed an agreement in 2016: SQAS assessments were recognised as equivalent to TfS audits
- Cefic and TfS have just updated the recognition agreement. It is now covering ESAD.
- Ecovadis assessments are not included in the recognition



1st June 2019

Cefic – SQAS and TfS recognition agreement, extension

Agreement between Cefic and TfS:

In order to avoid duplication of audits, increase acceptance by suppliers and save resources, TfS and SQAS have agreed to cooperate on Audits for Logistics Service Providers (LSPs) – since 2016 TfS has been accepting SQAS Assessments as a substitute for TfS Audits from Logistics Service Providers.

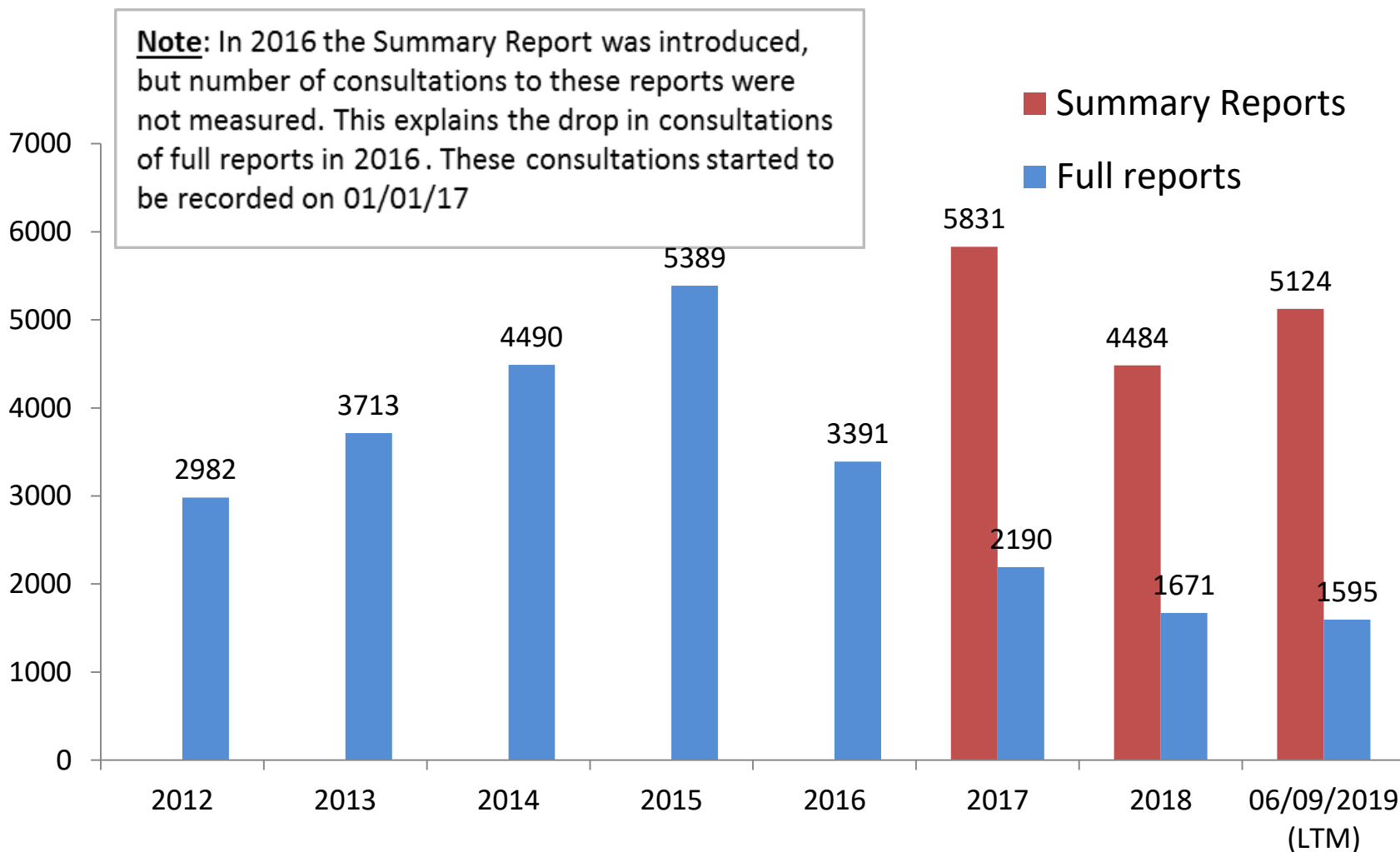
To avoid any misunderstanding: in SQAS, the word “assessment” has the same meaning as the word “audit” in TfS – both describe an on-site evaluation of a supplier according to a pre-defined questionnaire.

SQAS Assessments per year

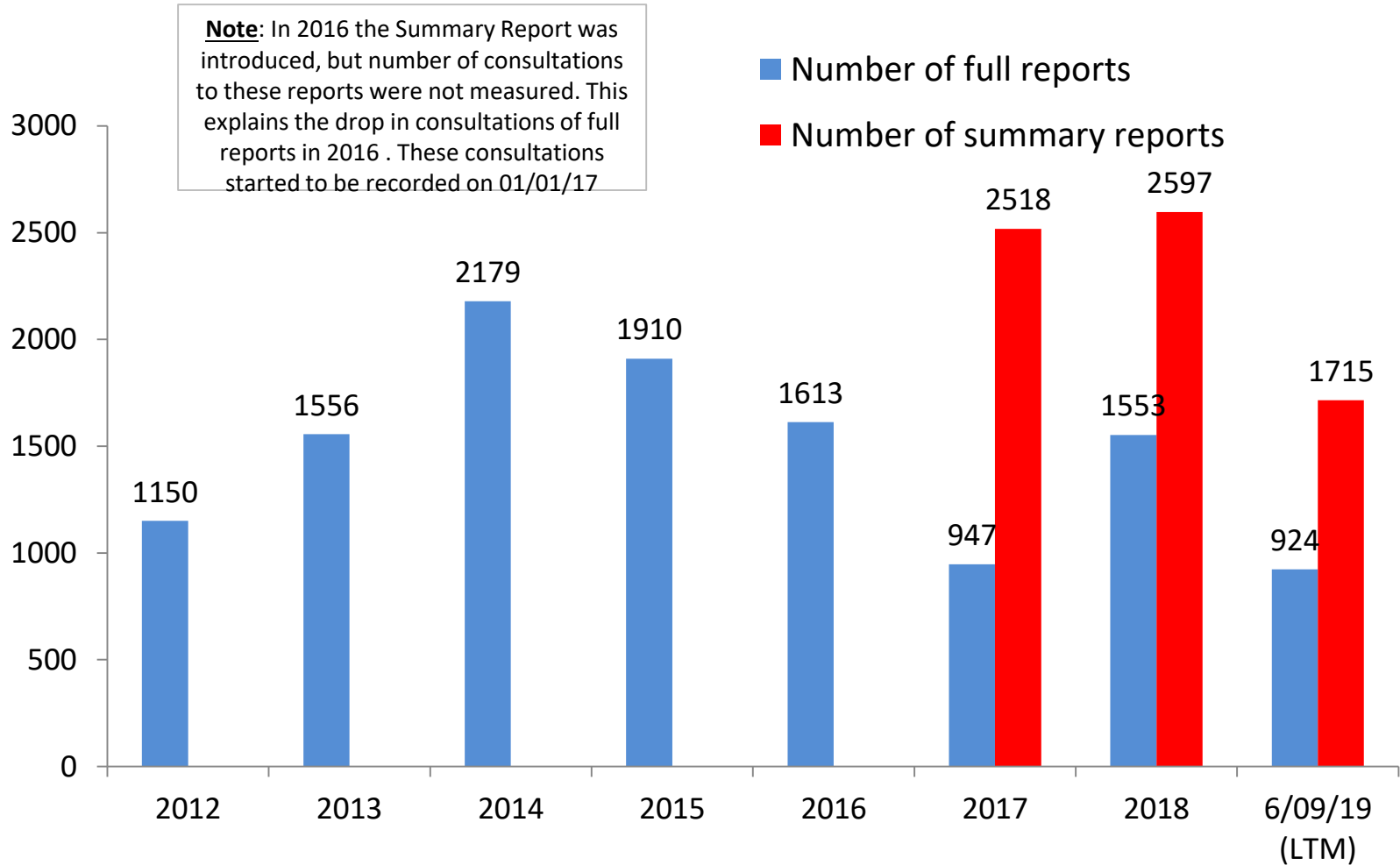


Number of SQAS assessments per year								
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Transport Service	464	440	504	551	510	544	572	573
Cleaning Stations	190	191	197	221	190	245	253	248
Rail Operators	4	12	30	17	20	37	17	30
Warehouses	62	69	45	78	73	64	85	77
ESAD (Distributors)	74	102	120	63	110	89	44	92
Total	794	814	896	930	903	979	971	1020

Downloads of SQAS reports by Chemical Companies



Downloads of SQAS reports by Logistics and Distributors



Actions from the SQAS Task Force after a SWOT analysis



1. Promotion, communication & training
2. System/IT
3. Questionnaires, content
4. Governance, structure

Promotion, communication & training: Internal (1)



1. Promote SQAS with ACOM members that are not using SQAS: 46 out of 73 companies are not members of SQAS.
2. Create a communication package for companies using SQAS
3. Develop quick-reference guides for users about how SQAS should be used by chemical companies, logistics suppliers and distributors.
4. Organize a workshop about SQAS/ESAD in Nov 2019 (6 Nov).
5. Communicate to current assessors any news related to the SQAS system
6. Promote SQAS with Certification Bodies, DGSA associations, etc. to get assessors in countries where we want to develop SQAS
7. Use annual RC KPIs reports from ECTA/Fecc for external communication



Promotion, communication & training: Internal (2)

- **First action agreed with SQAS TF:** promotion of SQAS with ACOM members that are not using SQAS: 46 out of 73 companies are not members of SQAS
- **Support from Cefic communication department** to the development of emails, booklets and presentations
- **Status:** we have contacted 11 companies, so far. No new members yet. Presentations to explain SQAS are already planned in September and October

Promotion, communication & training: Internal (3)



1. SQAS Newsletter sent to all SQAS users in May 2019
2. Article in Cefic “In the News” in June 2019: 6000 people in the distribution list (including police makers from the Commission, Parliament and Council)
3. Article in Dutch magazine “Prevent Focus” to be issued in September 2019
4. Reference to SQAS 2019 main changes in Cefic Sustainability Report to be issued in October 2019

Promotion, communication & training: External



1. Issue articles in magazines and social media about SQAS & ESAD
2. Collect the inputs from global producers to identify the regions/countries where SQAS could be promoted (e.g. Russia, South America, Asia, etc.)
3. Promote SQAS among authorities: Create understanding and appreciation amongst EU legislators, the EU Directorates and the general public and thus, avoid new/unnecessary legislation
4. Promote SQAS towards national associations for their transport safety positioning & to support promotion towards SME's

Promotion of SQAS in 2018

- Five articles in magazines: ICIS, HCB (Hazardous Cargo Bulletin), Gefahrgut, Gefährliche Ladung, Tank Cleaning Magazine



SQAS gets an update

For 2019, CEFIC's Safety and Quality Assessment for Sustainability system for transport and logistics features new versions of the accompanying questionnaires

VICTOR TRAFANI SQAS AND TRANSPORT REGULATIONS MANAGER, CEFIC AISBL

In 1992, a Cefic working group ran a pilot with three transport companies to test a new system of audits of logistics suppliers, giving birth to what we know today as SQAS.

The system has been expanding constantly; nowadays it covers the complete chain of land logistics: transport service providers, tank cleaning stations, warehouses, rail operators and chemical distributors.

While the initial scope of SQAS covered safety, health, environment and quality, it was later extended to embrace also security and lately corporate social responsibility aspects.

While celebrating the system's 25th anniversary, its name was changed to Safety and Quality Assessment for Sustainability with a new visual identity.

The system would not have succeeded without close cooperation with the main stakeholders.

From the start, the logistics companies, their European sectoral associations (ECTA and EPTCO) and the chemical distributors (through Fecic) were closely involved in the development of the scheme.

The Responsible Care partnership agreements of Cefic with ECTA and FPEC gave a further boost to SQAS, which was used by ECTA and FPEC as the tool for the Responsible Care verification of their members.

VICTOR TRAFANI
SQAS and transport regulations manager/Cefic AISBL

"After long discussions within the Technical Committee which manages SQAS, all questionnaires were changed"



www.icis.com



While the basic principles of SQAS – third party single assessments focusing on continuous improvement for use by chemical companies in their risk management – remained the same from the beginning, the scheme was continuously adapted to changing industry requirements, at the same time making the system much more user friendly.

INDICATORS SUGGEST PROGRESS

The main indicators used to measure the performance of the scheme have been showing fruitful results over time, demonstrating the growing interest from the industry in SQAS.

With almost 1,000 SQAS assessments carried out for all modules in 2017, and a registered all-time record of 572 assessments of transport companies (see table), SQAS is still growing.

This is also illustrated by the number of SQAS report consultations from chemical companies, rising from around 3,000 consultations in 2012 to almost 6,000 in 2017.

The quality of any assessment system is dependent on the reliability of the assessors. Cefic keeps a solid quality management system to monitor the assessments and to train and re-train the SQAS assessors.

NEW QUESTIONNAIRE

As part of the continuous improvement process that Cefic applies to the system, this year a revision of the SQAS questionnaires took

place. After long discussions within the Technical Committee which manages SQAS, all questionnaires were changed and new versions were uploaded into the SQAS website. From 1 January 2019, all SQAS assessments will be carried out with the new versions of the questionnaires.

The main changes in SQAS 2019 Core and Transport Service questionnaires are described below:

SQAS 2019 CORE

The structure of the questionnaire was changed: SQAS 2019 has a more logical sequence and more discrimination than the version used today. The table below compares the current and new structures.

2015 AND 2019 VERSIONS COMPARED

Current structure (SQAS 2015)
1. Management
2. Safety, health, environment & security & CSR
3. Procurement of services
New structure (SQAS 2019)
1. Management system and responsibility
2. Risk management
3. Human resources
4. On/offsite emergency preparedness and response
5. Performance analysis and management review

The section about information technology security was upgraded.

New questions about measures to avoid particles of plastic/flakes/powder that are lost during transportation, handling, cleaning or storage reaching rivers, lakes or the sea were introduced.

The section about the annual management review was upgraded.

SQAS 2019 TRANSPORT SERVICE

A new section about management of transport greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions was created.

80 questions were deleted/merged (most of them with high average scores).

100 questions were reworded to state the requirements more precisely.

The definition of the assessment criteria for subcontracted companies that are not SQAS assessed was improved.

The section "Transfer terminals for containers" was improved, including reference to the new Cefic/ECTA guidelines.

A new section about "Transport of plastics, polymers and dry products" was created.

The section "Handling practices of food, food contact materials and feed products" was upgraded.

Many references to the new Cefic/ECTA/Fecic guidelines were incorporated.

Presentation of SQAS at UN in Geneva 30 Nov 2018 (plenary session): Sub Committee of Experts of Transport of Dangerous Goods – Discussion on UN Model Regulations



Presentation of SQAS at the Russian Federation on 21 Feb 2019



System/IT



1. Analyze the creation of a mobile version of the SQAS website + other features making the application more user friendly (e.g. from graph to further detail, improvements)
2. Make it possible & efficient to make updates more frequently
3. Reporting should show continuous improvement (score evolution and improvement plans). A possibility is using a “moving average” graph. This could be included in the SQAS summary report

Questionnaires, content



1. Start collecting inputs for SQAS 2.0.
2. Cefic could define templates (Sustainability, CSR, safety, compliancy, etc.) on SQAS questions. The outcome of the assessed questions could be shown on the summary report and replace (or not) the current split in chapters. This would help procurement departments. The challenge is to agree among producers on the minimum requirements
3. Consider using other criteria different than 1/0, at least for some questions

Governance, structure



1. To investigate audit overlaps that could go against the SQAS principle, a communication tool will be created where SQAS assessed companies could report deviations. The tool will avoid disclosure of the reporting party.
2. Include in the SQAS operating rules the possibility to appeal in case of different opinions among participating associations.
3. Consider giving ECTA, EFTCO a vote in the SQAS Ex Com and/or GA.

Opportunity for SQAS : Use of the system to assess plastics lost



1. Pressure from authorities to create a “certification system” in Europe to guarantee that plastics are not lost
2. Scope: all supply chain
3. Plastics Europe has started negotiations with Certification Bodies to develop the system
4. Cefic is offering to Plastics Europe the SQAS system to cover the need
5. The SQAS T&A Committee has all the resources to develop it