

DOWNLOADABLE CHECKLIST

The certification checklist: can every product on the shelf produce its certificate?

A label is the manufacturer’s own claim. A certificate is a third party’s. Run these checks on every cleaning chemical in the store, then keep the certificates on file with the safety data sheets, ready for the inspector who asks.

Nine checks for every product

- 01

☐ Ask for the certificate itself, not the line on the label or the logo on the website.
- 02

☐ The holder’s name matches the company on the label, or the supplier can explain the link.
A brand made under contract will show the manufacturer’s name, not the brand’s.
- 03

☐ The product is named on the certificate or its schedule.
A company can hold certification for one product and not another.
- 04

☐ The certificate is in date. Note the expiry date on the audit sheet overleaf.
- 05

☐ The issuing body is named and can confirm it. See “Where to verify” below.
- 06

☐ ISO 9001: the certification body is itself accredited.
In South Africa, by the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS).
- 07

☐ Disinfectants: an NRCS registration number under compulsory specification VC 8054, checked against the NRCS database.
A cleaner or degreaser that makes no disinfecting claim needs no NRCS registration.
- 08

☐ A current safety data sheet is on file for every product classified as hazardous.
Regulations for Hazardous Chemical Agents, 2021.
- 09

☐ The person on shift can say what each product is for, and its dilution.
R638 requires staff to be trained in food safety and hygiene, with training records an inspector can ask to see.

Where to verify

CERTIFICATE	WHAT IT COVERS	CHECK IT WITH
SABS 1828 (SANS 1828)	The product’s safety for use where it may contact food. Issued by the South African Bureau of Standards	The SABS register of certified clients, sabs.co.za. Quote the permit number
ISO 9001	The manufacturer’s quality management system, not the product itself	IAF CertSearch, the International Accreditation Forum’s certificate database
Halaal	Ingredients and production, against the issuing authority’s rules	The halaal authority named on the certificate
NRCS (VC 8054)	Disinfectants, which must be registered to be sold	The NRCS registration database, nrcs.org.za

AUDIT SHEET

Your chemical store, product by product

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General guidance, not legal advice: check the requirements of your local authority. References: Regulations Governing General Hygiene Requirements for Food Premises, the Transport of Food and Related Matters (R638 of 2018); Regulations for Hazardous Chemical Agents, 2021; NRCS compulsory specification for disinfectants and detergent-disinfectants (VC 8054). Sponsored content: produced by Hospitality Marketplace in association with GreaseOff. Full article at hospitalitymarketplace.co.za.