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# ZDHC MRSL Industry Standard Implementation Approach

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Version 1.0

February 2020



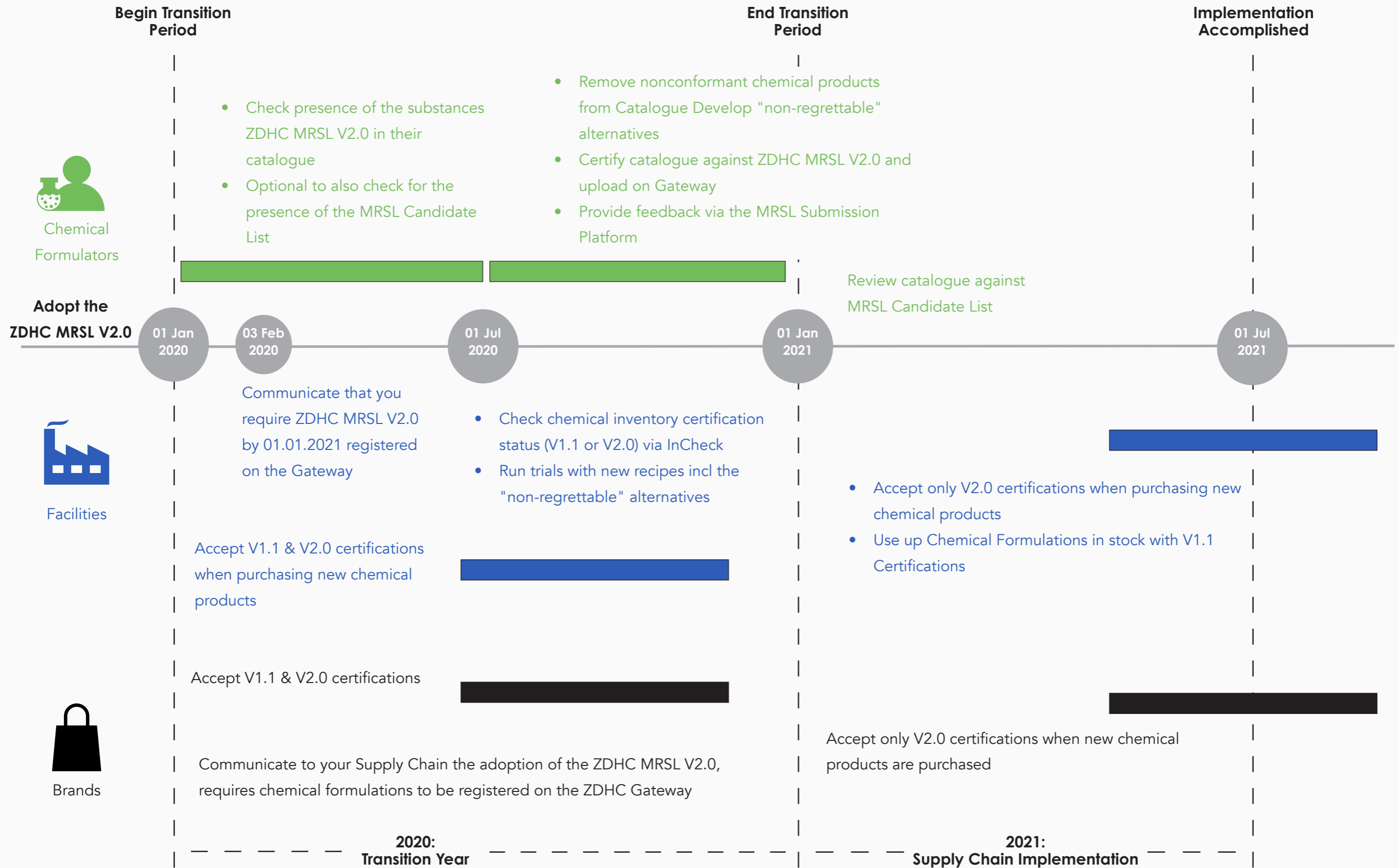
# Introduction

With the update of the ZDHC MRSL, all relevant stakeholders will be required to collaborate for successful implementation by all stakeholders. As ZDHC we have identified four key stakeholder (groups) that are essential to the implementation, that being:

1. Certification Bodies
2. "Chemical" Formulators
3. Facilities/Suppliers
4. Brands & Retailers

Each stakeholder holds a key role in ensuring the implementation of the ZDHC MRSL is a success. By each stakeholder respecting the actions of the other, there should be a minimum impact on overall workflow.

Below is a high-level overview of actions required, with further insight into detail pertaining to each stakeholder. A transition period of 12 months applies, starting 1 January 2020, during this time the ZDHC Gateway will continuously accept chemical products certified against ZDHC MRSL V1.1 and V2.0. In that period, the "Chemical" Formulator has time to review the content of the chemical products, develop alternatives where needed, re-certify their chemical products and update the information on the ZDHC Gateway.



"Chemical" Formulators, Suppliers/Facilities and Brands should adopt the ZDHC MRSL V2.0, that being the decision to use the ZDHC MRSL for your business, as evident by changes in company's internal and external policies and its communication. The ZDHC MRSL V2.0 must be referenced in communications either through company website, text or simply communicating ZDHC MRSL in full.

- The scope can be defined by your organisation based on its scope of business and valid reasons if excluding workwear (e.g. Hospital uniforms, Police, Army) or PPE (e.g. Formula 1).
- While your organisation has the right to add additional substances in order for the organisation to be rated as adopting the ZDHC MRSL, all communication must refer to ZDHC MRSL as the primary document and any additional substances included as an organisation specific appendix.

Implementation occurs when steps are taken - beyond adoption - to put the decision into action. These steps could be but are not limited to: training, change in purchase practices and the primary tracking of compliance with the new policy. Actions covered in the standard industry implementation approach cover both adoption and implementation.

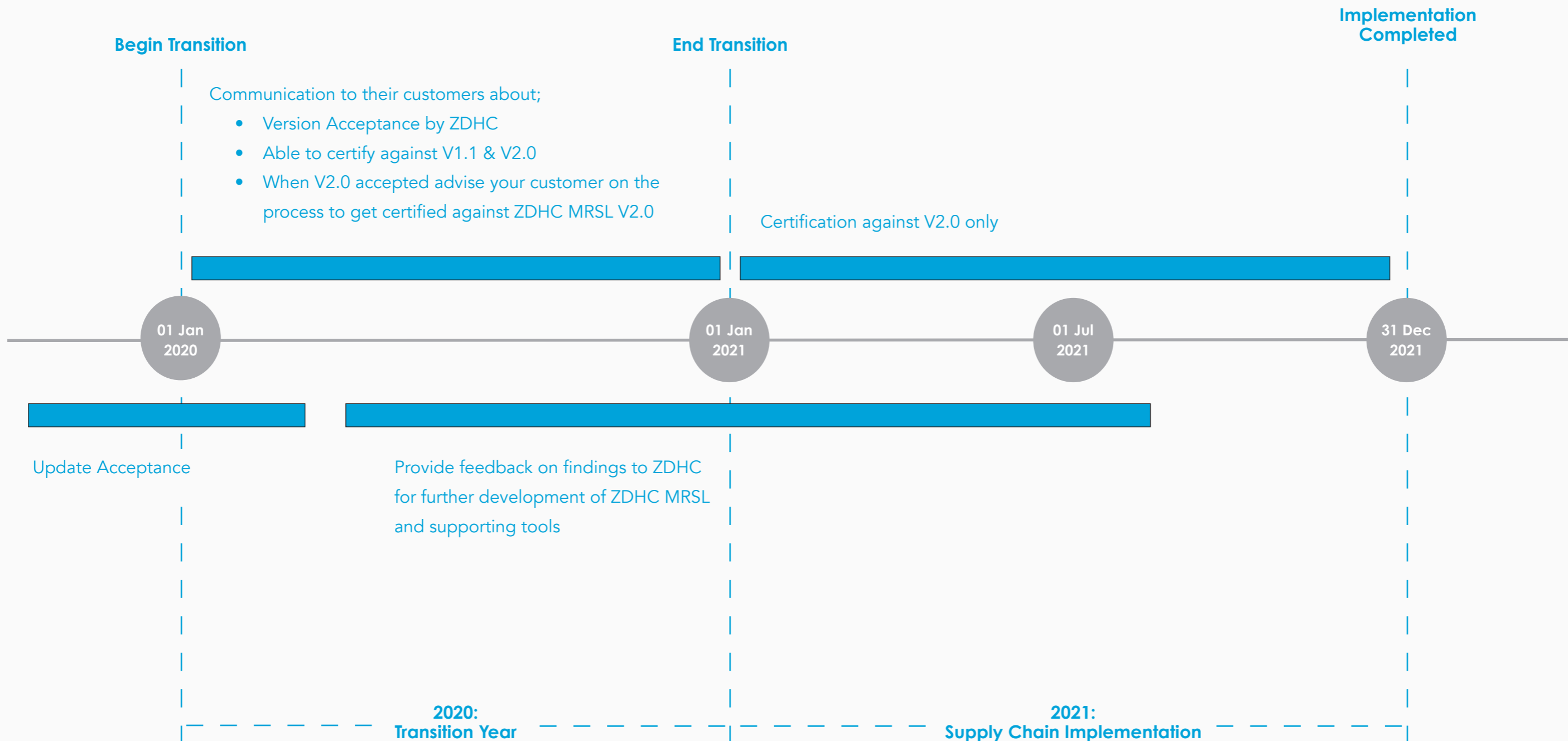
# Certification Bodies



Most actions taken by Certification Bodies are internal, to ensure they can conform against the updated ZDHC MRSL. The Certification Bodies should have updated their internal systems before the start of the transition period - this to enable "Chemical" Formulators to begin the immediate checking of newly added substances being present in their chemical products. After their internal systems have been updated the ZDHC will review the acceptance for ZDHC MRSL V2.0, if all is in good order the ZDHC will communicate the acceptance via the ZDHC website.

Even though each Certification Body has the right to certify against ZDHC MRSL V1.1 until 31 December 2020, it is recommended to advise not to recommend certifying against ZDHC MRSL V1.1 towards the latter part of 2020.

Each Certification Body will need to communicate their process for updating the certification to ZDHC MRSL V2.0 from a certification to ZDHC MRSL V1.1.



# "Chemical" Formulators



"Chemical" Formulators (Formulators) will be responsible for the main part of implementation of the ZDHC MRSL - other stakeholders will need to understand the actions needed to be taken prior to requesting updated conformance.

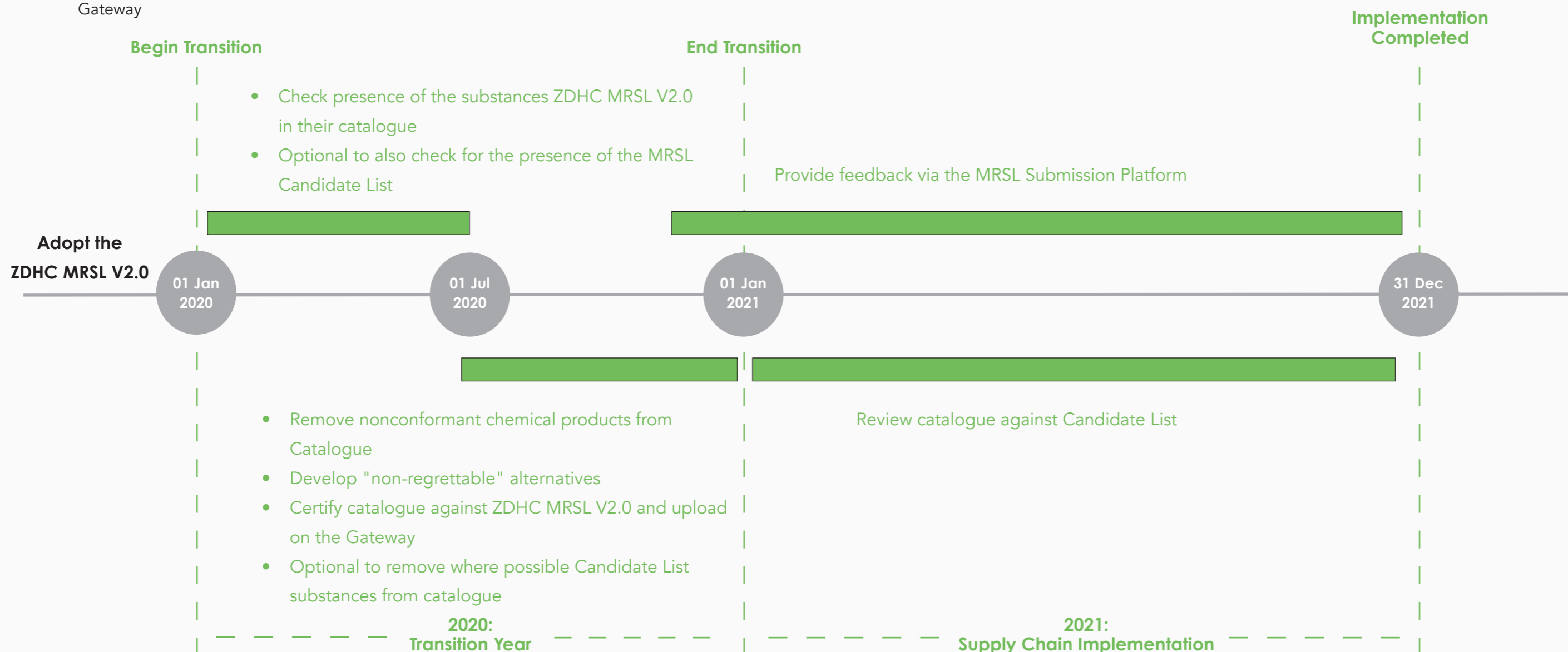
Key steps for the Chemical Formulators;

1. Check for newly added substances to the ZDHC MRSL V2.0 (and Candidate List: optional)
2. Update/Replace - if newly added substance are present, update or replace the formulation(s)
3. Certify chemical products against the ZDHC MRSL V2.0 and upload on the ZDHC Gateway

Below is the standard industry implementation approach for the chemical industry.

One of the changes of the ZDHC MRSL is the Candidate List. Best practice would ensure that a Formulator considers substances listed on the Candidate List and checks against their product catalogue. This applies both when collecting information to share with the ZDHC, and when checking where substances can be replaced.

If you are a Chemical Formulator that hasn't been certified for the ZDHC MRSL V1.1, it is recommended that where possible to try to get certified immediately for ZDHC MRSL V2.0.

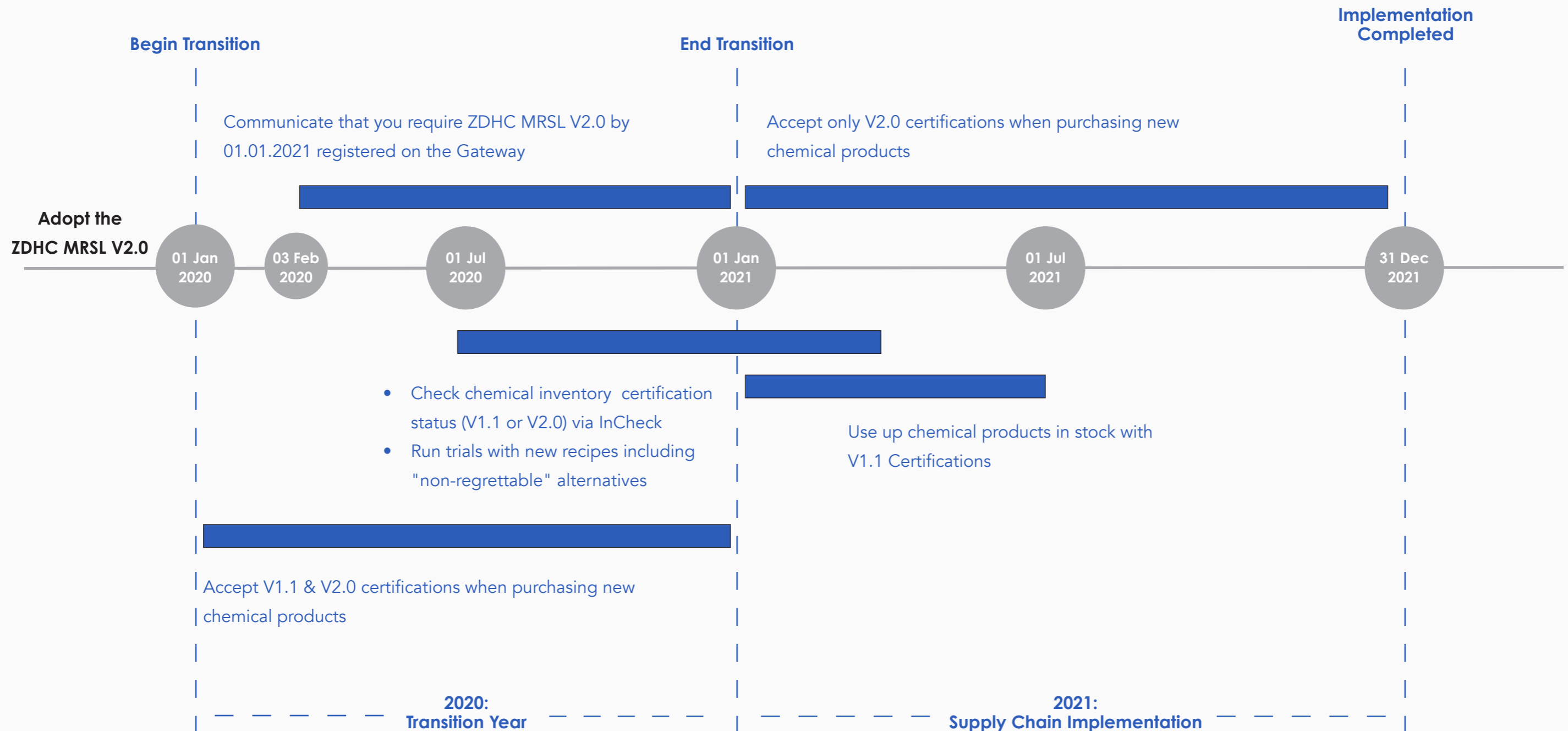


# Facilities / Suppliers



An InCheck report will help the facility to check the changes needed to become conformant to the updated version and prevent having a large quantity in stock that does not meet the updated requirements.

Besides a clear overview of chemical products used in your facility via InCheck, it is key to have clear communication with your entire supply chain partners is key to avoid misaligned targets and ensure any changes made are accepted and understood.



# Brands / Retailers



Most Brands don't have their own facilities, therefore, communication and awareness building is a key role in ensuring supply chain partners understand the role Brands have in implementing the ZDHC MRSL.

Tools for communication from the ZDHC can be utilised, such as the ZDHC Academy and webinars.

