Development of a Globally Interoperable Traceability Architecture for Authentication of Foods

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Institute of Food Technologists (IFT)

- More than 18,000 members worldwide
- Members come from industry (81%), academia (15%), and government (4%)
- 18% of IFT members are outside North America from more than 100 countries
IFT’s Global Food Traceability Center

Food Traceability in Context

- Food Protection: Holistic approach
- Food Defense: Intentional contamination
- Food Safety: Unintentional contamination
- Food Security: Accessibility and availability
The Complexity of the Food System

Traceability: Relevance to Food Safety

- Causality
- Visibility
- Trust
- Agility

Food Safety and Defense

Prevention
Preparedness
Recovery
Response
Food Authentication Challenges

- Substitution

NAME THAT FISH

1. Atlantic Cod?

2. Grouper?

Image Source: USA Today

Food Authentication Challenges

- Diversion

Image Source: https://eco110rope.wordpress.com/2011/05/02/increasing-the-cost-of-food/
Food Authentication Challenges

- Circumvention


Traceability Challenges

- Overlapping and conflicting demands from national regulators
Traceability Challenges

- Lack of unifying requirements
  - Changing regulatory demands around the world
  - Multiple proprietary requirements
  - Terminology

Traceability Challenges

- Lack of records
  - Data is simply not available, or is difficult to collect
  - Is the data
    - Reliable?
    - Relevant?
    - Rapidly accessed?
What we do NOT want to do…

**Interoperable Traceability:**
A HACCP-like Approach

**Data ownership retained by businesses**
Conclusion

- A list of cliché’s
  - “the future is coming”
  - “nothing is permanent but change”
  - “surprise is inevitable, being unprepared is not”

- Drivers of innovations
  - Regulatory roadmaps
  - Industry innovations
  - Technology transformations

- Future of Traceability
  - In a revolutionary phase
  - Much more than keeping track of foods
  - Collaborative and ubiquitous

www.globalfoodtraceability.org
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Thank you.

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