A Message from the Director

With September being National Preparedness Month, we at the Center tend to get a lot of questions about what’s traceability got to do with it. That conversation quickly broadens into what is the role of traceability to everything else that happens in the global food system? It’s a good question – and if you take a moment to think about it, a deeply philosophical one at that! Many traceability solution providers sell traceability as the Holy Grail – the technology that will solve all your problems. The reality is that traceability is a tool and how we use the tool to achieve other goals really determines the power of that traceability program. From food security to food waste, from food safety to food defense, from food sustainability to greater conservation efforts, having effective traceability in place does not solve those problems for you. But not having traceability guarantees you won’t solve those problems. It’s the classic problem analogous to that of cyber security – you can’t prove a negative. Traceability is a pre-requisite for preparedness because it gives us the visibility into our supply chains that we need if we are serious about solving all the other issues mentioned. To that end, the Center has been hard at work in raising the visibility of all the great efforts in the world of traceability across the globe and in collaboration with a spectrum of stakeholders like regulatory agencies, industry, academia and consumers. Because together we are better prepared than alone and hopefully this newsletter provides you a glimpse of the fact that it’s true.

Project Updates

Capacity Building of Public- and Private- Sector Stakeholders in the CARIFORUM Region in Enhanced Traceability Processes and Systems

GFTC and Inter-American Institute for Cooperation of Agriculture (IICA) have begun co-hosting a series of 9 in-depth traceability workshops throughout the CARIFORUM region. These workshops will take a detailed look at how to gain a competitive advantage and improve business bottom line through instruction on various principles and benefits of traceability on different business sectors. The courses are geared towards food industry professionals, specifically those who are decision makers, owners, plant managers, supervisor and team leads, in food safety, defense, quality assurance and quality control. GFTC looks forward to working with IICA to bring traceability information to the CARIFORUM region. Check out some of the photos below from past courses!
USAID Oceans and Fisheries Partnership
GFTC is pleased to announce a newly acquired grant with USAID Oceans! USAID Oceans works to strengthen regional cooperation to combat IUU fishing and promote sustainable fisheries, in order to conserve marine biodiversity in the Asia-Pacific region. GFTC will work alongside of USAID Oceans to serve as subject matter experts in the design of a financially sustainable regional catch documentation and traceability (CDT) system to combat IUU fishing and seafood fraud in areas where sustainable fisheries management plans (SFMP) are being applied.

Global Outreach

Check out where GFTC has been in the last few years!
Global Pouch Forum
Miami, FL – June 15-17, 2016

INFORMS International Conference

National Coalition for Food and Agriculture Research (NCFAR)
Washington, DC – June 10, 2016

IAFP European Food Safety Summit
Athens, Greece – May 11–13, 2016

Food Safety Summit
Rosemont, IL – May 10–12, 2016

Seafood Expo Global
Brussels, Belgium – April 26–28, 2016

Southern California Institute of Food Technologists Section Meeting
Anaheim, CA – April 19–21, 2016

Institute of Food Technologists Alamo Section Meeting
Austin, TX – April 21, 2016

Food Defense Conference
Minneapolis, MN – June 29–30, 2016

U.S. Round Table for Sustainable Beef First Annual General Assembly Meeting
Denver, CO – July 12–13, 2016

IFT16
Chicago IL – July 16-19 2016

IAFP Annual Meeting
St. Louis, MO – July 31- August 3, 2016

IUFoST World Congress of Food Science and Technology
Dublin, Ireland – August 21-25, 2016

Monterey Bay Aquarium Sustainable Foods Institute
Monterey, CA – September 12-13, 2016

CAT² User Summit
Little Rock, AR – September 16, 2016

The 2016 Concordia Summit
New York, New York – September 19-20
U.S. Food and Drug Administration – China National Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment Workshop
Beijing, China – September 24-29, 2016

Visit GFTC at These Upcoming Events!

China Fisheries & Seafood Expo
Qingdao, China – November 2-4, 2016

National Traceability Workshop

National Traceability Workshop
Grenada – October 18-19, 2016

National Traceability Workshop
St. Lucia – October 25-26, 2016

National Traceability Workshop
Jamaica – November 8-9, 2016

National Traceability Workshop
Guyana – November 15-16, 2016

Traceability in the News

Food Traceability Market - a Defining Trend for Food Safety and Quality Industry; Global Industry Analysis & Forecast 2018
Transparency Market Research Reports incorporated a definite business overview and investigation inclines on "Food Traceability Market". This report likewise incorporates more illumination about fundamental review of the business including definitions, requisitions and worldwide business sector industry structure.

Fish Fraud: Something Fishy Is Happening With the Labeling of Seafood
Here's a shopping shocker that makes the issue even more complicated: You may not be getting the fish you're paying for at retail outlets or in restaurants.

Creating More Effective Food Product Recalls by Improving Traceability
Study finds that traceability is hindered by three things: time pressures, supply chain permeation, and product characteristics that create confusion about what to trace.

Aussie Poultry Producer Introduces Labelling That Tracks Food from Paddock to Plate
When it comes to the products we consume, more Australians are increasingly calling for traceability and transparency through labelling.

What’s Keeping Food Companies from Improving Traceability in the Supply Chain?
Food product traceability continues to be challenge for companies, especially in the event of a food recall. An in-depth, multi-year research project led by Notre Dame Assistant Professor Kaitlin Wowak, who has a Ph.D. in supply chain management, aimed to gain insight on what exactly is hindering food product traceability.
Why Your Red Snapper May Have Worn a Tracer
MONTEREY, Calif – In an era when consumers increasingly want to eat sustainable, socially responsible food, tracing fish from the boat to the plate is a holy grail in the seafood industry.

Partner News
On August 1, 2016, Lystra Antoine joined the Global Food Safety Partnership (GFSP) as the partnership’s first CEO. A transformational leader with extensive experience in the public and private sectors, Lystra has designed and managed results-driven strategies to improve the human condition through safe, reliable, and sustainable food systems.

Over the past four years, she was the Global Director for DuPont Pioneer’s sustainable agriculture development efforts and was responsible for designing and leading the implementation of agriculture development initiatives that helped smallholder farmers improve their livelihoods and increase their contribution to the value chain.

A firm believer in the achievement of the sustainable development goals, which include food and nutrition safety and security for all, Lystra spent sixteen years at the World Bank prior to joining DuPont. Lystra holds an MBA from SUNY Buffalo and a Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center and has been a member of the World Economic Forum’s New Vision for Agriculture Project Board.

About GFTC
The GFTC desires to become the global resource and authoritative voice on food traceability by serving all aspects of the food system - from agriculture to the consumer – through the generation of knowledge in research gaps, delivering applied research, objective advice and practical expertise about data collaboration and food product traceability for private benefit and public good. Find out more about GFTC at http://www.globalfoodtraceability.org.

About IFT
Founded in 1939, the Institute of Food Technologists is committed to advancing the science of food. Our non-profit scientific society—more than 17,000 members from more than 90 countries—brings together food scientists, technologists and related professionals from academia, government and industry. For more information, please visit ift.org.

Pass it On
Have a contact who might be interested in GFTC? Feel free to pass on our newsletter!

Ask a Question
Have a burning question about traceability you need answered? Want to give a suggestion to improve the work being done by the Center? Feel free to email us at traceability@ift.org.
A huge thank you to all our sponsors for their commitment and support of the Center – find out more about them here: http://www.ift.org/gftc/advisory-council-and-sponsors.aspx.

Email overload? We understand. If you would like to stop receiving this newsletter, please forward this email to traceability@ift.org with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line.