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# **Improving the Recall Process**

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# Industry Recall Survey

- Joint Industry survey  
AAMP, AMI, NAMP, NCC, NFPA, NMA, NTF, SWM
- 502 establishments
  - 100% of the companies have recall programs
  - 96% of those conduct mock recalls

# Current Recall Roles

- FSIS responsible for the recall
  - Team investigates, determines need for recall
  - Scope of recall
  - Product involved
  - Effectiveness checks
- Plant performs the mechanics
  - Provides information as requested by FSIS
  - Determines distribution
  - Retrieves Product

## Industry Survey

- If your company has been involved in a recall of FSIS-inspected product, in your opinion was FSIS forthcoming in providing all relevant information in a timely manner?

**66% Yes**

**34% No**

# Industry Comments on Decision Making Process

- Information Flow is generally from company to FSIS
- Agency internal deliberations are generally not open to us. Not the case when a company learns of a situation, we inform and share our decision-making process
- FSIS withheld information making it difficult for the company to assess the situation in a timely and scientific manner

## **Solution**

- Involve Company
- Share information
- Allow companies to conduct hazard evaluation or be a part of the FSIS process

## Industry Survey

- In the event of future recall(s) would you prefer to perform your own health hazard evaluation for submission to FSIS, rather than rely upon FSIS to perform the evaluation?

**81% Yes**

**19% No**

# Industry Survey

- Would your firm solicit this expertise from a third party, if necessary?

**98% Yes**

**2% No**



## Issuance of Press Release

- If your company has been involved in a FSIS-inspected product recall, was the FSIS-issued press release entirely accurate?

**58% Yes**

**42% No**

## Comments

- Coordination of the recall process frustrating
- FSIS public affairs groups issued a release without a review of accuracy by recall group
- 12 Incidents of incorrect product descriptions.

# Solution

- Company draft release
- Company Review agency release

# Industry Survey

- In the event of future recall(s) would you prefer to issue your own company press release in lieu of an agency release?

**92% Yes**

**8% No**

# Classification Clarification

- Recall used only for Food Safety
- Non-Compliant Product Retrieval

# Industry Survey

- Do you believe that FSIS has clearly defined recall classifications, including market withdrawals?

**34% Yes**

**66% No**

# Thank You

- The National Turkey Federation and all of its members thank FSIS for this opportunity to share ideas about the recall process. Through these exchanges we hope to reach a cooperative agreement that is beneficial to the agency, the industry and consumers.