

## **FDA Progress Report on Implementing the Food Safety Modernization Act: January – March 2012**

The FDA intends to provide regular updates to inform the public and Congress on its progress implementing the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). This summary does not reference all actions taken by FDA.

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### **March 2012**

#### **FDA Announces Foods for Product Tracing Pilots**

In a Frequently Asked Question and blog by Sherri McGarry, Senior Advisor, Coordinated Outbreak Response and Evaluation Network, FDA announced the types of foods that will be part of the pilot projects on product tracing.

- Questions and Answers  
<http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodSafety/FSMA/ucm247559.htm#ProductTracing>
- Blog <http://fdatransparencyblog.fda.gov/2012/03/15/rapid-tracing-of-food-products-prevents-illness>

#### **Identifying High-Risk Facilities**

A Frequently Asked Question and fact sheet describe how FDA identifies a high-risk facility and how this approach will be updated.

- Question and Answer  
<http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodSafety/FSMA/ucm247559.htm#high-risk>

#### **Ensuring Produce Safety in a Global Food System**

Michael R. Taylor, Deputy Commissioner for Foods, presented remarks at the America Trades Produce Conference, Tubac, Arizona, March 22, 2012

- Remarks <http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodSafety/FSMA/ucm297839.htm>

## February 2012

### Sprouts Safety Alliance Established

FDA has embraced a strategy of creating alliances for various foods aimed at education, training and technical assistance for industry and government food safety officials. The latest alliance is the Sprouts Safety Alliance, announced February 28, 2012. Housed at the Illinois Institute of Technology's Institute for Food Safety and Health, the alliance will develop a core curriculum on sprout safety as well as training and outreach programs.

- Fact Sheet <http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodSafety/FSMA/ucm293429.htm>

### FDA Issues Interim Final Rule and Guidance on FDA's Access to Records

Because the records access provisions of FSMA became effective on passage, FDA decided to issue an interim final rule to expedite industry's understanding of and compliance with those provisions. In addition to the interim final rule, FDA also published draft guidance and questions and answers for industry. The FSMA amendment simply expands FDA's former records access beyond records related to the specific suspect article of food which FDA reasonably believes is adulterated and presents a threat of serious adverse health consequences or death to humans or animals to now include records relating to any article of food that is reasonably likely to be affected in a similar manner. In addition, the FSMA amendment permits FDA to access records related to articles of food for which FDA believes that there is a reasonable probability that the use of or exposure to the article of food, and any other article of food is likely to be affected in a similar manner, will cause serious adverse health consequences or death to humans or animal. Once either of the above mentioned circumstances are met, FDA may request all existing records needed to assist the agency in determining whether the circumstances, which gave rise to the records request, exist.

- Interim Final Rule <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-02-23/html/2012-4165.htm>
- Draft Industry Guidance <http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/GuidanceDocuments/FoodDefenseandEmergencyResponse/ucm292745.htm>
- Guidance for Industry <http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/GuidanceDocuments/FoodDefenseandEmergencyResponse/ucm292746.htm>

## **Report to Congress on FDA Foreign Offices**

FSMA requires FDA to issue a number of reports to Congress on various topics. FDA issued its latest report, "Report to Congress on FDA Foreign Offices," in February, 2012. The report describes the Agency's progress in establishing its foreign offices – 13 to date – as well as their accomplishments and the challenges faced by FDA in the increasingly globalized marketplace it oversees.

- Report to Congress  
<http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodSafety/FSMA/ucm291803.htm>

## **Food Safety Collaboration in a Global Food System**

Michael R. Taylor, Deputy Commissioner for Foods, presented remarks at the Global Food Safety Conference, Orlando, Florida, February 16, 2012

- Remarks <http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodSafety/FSMA/ucm292162.htm>

## **January 2012**

First-year anniversary of enactment of the Food Safety Modernization Act.