

Private Sector Needs for Food Defense Solutions

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Heartland Security Conference
Minneapolis, MN
July 10, 2007

agenda

- ◆ food safety vs food defense
- ◆ key vulnerabilities
- ◆ challenges
- ◆ possible solutions

food safety vs defense

◆ well positioned for food safety

- unintentional contamination
- food safety infrastructure
- prevention, detection, and response systems
- validated processes
- training and research

☞ no similar system for food defense

food safety vs defense

◆ differentiation based upon:

- the accidental vs the intentional
- the chance occurrence vs the malicious intent
- the unplanned vs the deliberate

☞ these are important distinctions to the food industry, particularly with regard to management and prevention practices

food safety infrastructure and systems

◆ food safety programs

- GAP
- GMP
- HACCP

◆ federal, state, local inspection

◆ prevent, detection and response systems

☞ lacking in some less developed countries

food defense

- ◆ prevention
- ◆ detection
- ◆ response
- ◆ remediation

☞ all depends on adequate planning

vulnerabilities

- ◆ agricultural production
- ◆ storage and transport of raw commodities
- ◆ processing and manufacturing
- ◆ storage and transportation of products
- ◆ wholesale and retail distribution
- ◆ food service

challenges

- ◆ emphasis on food safety vs security
- ◆ inadequate security personnel
- ◆ lax transportation security
- ◆ off-shore sourcing of food
 - reliance of foreign government oversight
 - limited inspection of imports
- ◆ open access to food at retail/food service

challenges

- ◆ inadequate public/private sector coordination and planning
- ◆ inadequate risk communication planning
- ◆ poor connection to intelligence community

possible solutions

- ◆ strengthen public/private partnership
 - two-way sharing of info between government and industry
- ◆ multi-sector collaboration
- ◆ international government involvement

possible solutions

- ◆ develop training and education materials
- ◆ define criteria for employee screening
- ◆ address vulnerability in food transport systems

possible solutions

- ◆ improved procedures to inspect imported food
- ◆ development of rapid testing methods
 - deployable in the field
 - broad spectrum
 - capable of testing large samples vs small

improved detection

*Discovery*CERT FQS™



- no sampling
- non-destructive
- microbial, chemical, GMO capability



possible solutions

- ◆ government/industry table top exercises to improve emergency response and communications
- ◆ establish local emergency response plans
- ◆ establish regular communications among law enforcement, intelligence community, regulators, academia, and industry
- ◆ utilize “lessons learned” from food safety incidents

food defense

Security is incremental in nature -
even small gains in security
awareness, practices and
procedures contribute to the total
security of a company, a sector, a
region, a state, and/or a nation
(think public health interventions)