Public-Private Partnerships: A Practical Solution

Rohit Khanna
Vice President, Worldwide Marketing
Waters Corporation
Challenge: Global Food Safety

- **Global food trade has more than tripled** since 1990 to almost $1 trillion annually

- **Unsafe food** causes 76 million illnesses and 5,000 deaths annually in the USA alone

- **1.8 million deaths** from diarrhoeal disease worldwide, many due to food and water contamination

- Exporters face the challenge of **differing standards** in different countries and a lack of understanding on how to meet them

- **Collaboration involving all stakeholders** is essential
Collaboration: Key to Solution
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- Waters Corporation believes public-private partnerships are key.

- “FDA will effectively allocate agency resources based on risk, leveraging the combined efforts of government, industry, and public- and private-sector third parties.”
Public-Private Partnership to address key food safety challenges

Examined Challenges

- Globally distributed production
- Need for equivalent assurances
- Build trust in the production controls
- Build trust in efficacy of verification testing

Identified Partners

Created Solution

International Food Safety Training Laboratory
International Food Safety Training Laboratory

2008-2010: Waters Engages Stakeholders

May 2010: Partnership Announcement
June 2011: Pilot Class
September 2011: Official Opening, First Class

- Public-private partnership to address global food safety
- Dedicated Facility
- Hands-on training
- Classroom training on regulations
Role of the IFSTL

- Build global expertise on fit-for-purpose testing methods
- Allow governments to tap expertise of leading technology providers, universities and others
- Serve as information clearinghouse on regulations, testing methods and chemistries
- Establish permanent channels of communication between regulatory agencies internationally
- Help the FDA meet capacity building requirements in the Food Safety Modernization Act
FDA, USDA and UMD scientists will inspire, lead and train
Scientists will interact with regulators and other scientists from around the globe
Focus on fit-for-purpose testing methods for detecting contaminants in food
How it Works

- Access to the latest, high-quality technology and equipment
- Trainees can sign up for courses that address specific issue of concern
- Trainees take knowledge back home and teach others
- Ability to teach 200 professionals a year
Next steps

- To truly improve global food safety, how can we build upon the IFSTL model?
The Beginning of a Global Network
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An integrated network creating a global platform for:

- Dialogue and exchange of information
- Sharing curricula and best practices
- Building trust
- Establishing a global community with ongoing interaction
IFSTL: Global Food Safety Model

The International Food Safety Training Lab is...

- The bridge for international regulators, scientists and industry
- A unique forum for collaboration
- An opportunity to build trust, enhance trade

Industry and Governments → Public-Private Partnerships → Global Food Safety Network
IFSTL: A Practical Solution

- Real, growing global food safety challenge
- Practical solutions needed: public-private partnership is critical
- IFSTL is a significant achievement
- An opportunity exists for a momentous advance
- Creation of an integrated, interconnected global network of food safety training laboratories