



January 31, 2023

CALL TO ACTION – Join Efforts to Support Industry Compliance with FSMA 204 Traceability Rule

Produce Traceability Initiative (PTI) Leadership Council co-chairs have issued a call to action to bring together industry experts to join a working group to support industry compliance with the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) 204 Traceability Rule. Companies who are compliant with PTI (Produce Traceability Initiative) are well positioned for compliance with the newly released US [FDA FSMA 204 Rule](#); however, there is a need to review existing guidance documents, and potentially create new guidance, to support enhanced alignment.

Five areas of focus were identified during recent PTI meetings:

1. GS1 Global Location Numbers (GLN)/Traceability Lot Code Source
2. Packer data capture and storage
3. Store/restaurant best practices
 - a. Including DSD (Direct Store Delivery) guidance
4. PTI-ASN Guidance update
5. How to capture lot code information (lot number, lot code source) at shipping

Recent PTI working group efforts were focused on enhancing traceability through technology, but the release of FSMA 204 Rule requires PTI participants to shift focus and address compliance efforts. With the exception of the GLN Working Group efforts, the earlier PTI efforts in areas such as 2-D barcodes, RFID, etc. will now go on hiatus to allow members of those working groups, and additional industry participants, to focus on the more pressing needs outlined above.

The PTI Leadership Council co-chairs, Steve Roosdahl and Tim York, led recent industry discussions at the December Council meeting. “There is an urgent need for industry experts in traceability to unite to lead produce compliance with FSMA 204,” noted Steve Roosdahl. “Since its creation, PTI has prioritized supporting industry in traceability implementation – the release of FSMA 204 has amplified that focus,” added Tim York.

Those interested in participating in a working group should contact Ed Treacy, IFPA at etreacy@freshproduce.com

For more information about The Produce Traceability Initiative visit www.producetraceability.org.

About PTI

The Produce Traceability Initiative, sponsored by Canadian Produce Marketing Association (CPMA), GS1 US, GS1 Canada, and International Fresh Produce Association (IFPA), is designed to help the fresh produce industry to maximize the effectiveness of current traceback procedures, while developing a standardized industry approach to enhance the speed and efficiency of traceability systems for the future. The PTI’s bold vision outlines a course of action to achieve supply chain-wide adoption of electronic traceability of every case of produce. For more information, visit www.producetraceability.org.