

Recall Preparedness

Food Protection Taskforce
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
April 28, 2021

Claudia Coles

CCOLES@SPA-FOOD.ORG



Product Recall

- Violative under the FD&C Act
 - Adulterated or
 - Misbranded
- Product has been distributed in commerce
- FDA has jurisdiction
 - Product moved in interstate commerce
 - A component of the product (raw ingredient) moved in interstate commerce.

FSMA PCHF Recall Plan Requirements

- Required for any food with a hazard requiring a preventive control
- Must be written
- Must describe steps to take and assign responsibility to:
 - Notify direct customers and consignees
 - Notify the public, when appropriate
 - Conduct effectiveness checks
 - Execute disposition of food

18 AAC 34.047 & 18 AAC 34.706 - Recall plans

(a) A food processing establishment/seafood processor shall develop, maintain, and make available for ADEC review written procedures sufficient to notify consignees & consumers of a product recall and remove affected product from commerce.

These written procedures ***must describe the steps to be taken***, and ***assign responsibilities for taking those steps***, to perform the following actions as appropriate to the facility/establishment:

1. notify each direct consignee of the recalled food/seafood product, including how to return or dispose of the affected product;
2. notify the public about the hazard presented by the recalled food/seafood product;
3. appropriately dispose of the recalled food/seafood product by reprocessing, reworking, diverting to a use that does not present a safety concern, or destroying the food/seafood product; and
4. verify, by means such as personal visits, telephone calls, written communications, or a combination of those means, that each consignee received notification of the recall and has taken the appropriate action.

18 AAC 34.047 & 18 AAC 34.706 - Recall plans

(b) The operator of a food processing establishment/seafood processor shall notify the ADEC immediately if the operator/processor knows or has reason to believe that a product released into commerce might be adulterated or misbranded.

(c) The operator of a food processing establishment/seafood processor shall implement the recall procedures developed in (a) of this section either at the direction of the ADEC or of the operator's/processor's own accord if the operator/processor knows or has reason to believe that a product released into commerce might be adulterated or misbranded.

(d) The operator of a food processing establishment/seafood processor shall maintain records relating to implementation of recall procedures, including notifications to the ADEC, consignees, and the public, and product disposition.

Recall Plan Common Elements

- Defined roles and responsibilities
- Contact lists for external notification
 - Regulators, customers, public
- Lot identification and verification information
- Effectiveness check procedures during a recall
- Product disposition procedures

Define Recall Roles

- Identify and document a recall coordinator and recall team
- Describe duties and roles of the team in the recall plan
- Recall team may include:
 - Recall coordinator
 - Operations manager
 - Publicity and public relations
 - Sales and marketing
 - Logistics and receiving
 - Quality assurance
 - Accountant
 - Scientific advisor
 - Attorney
 - Administrative support
 - FDA recall coordinator
 - State recall coordinator

Define and Assign Responsibility

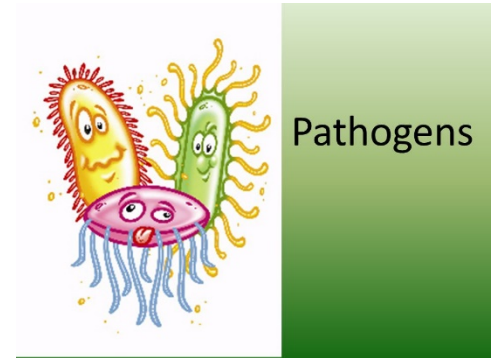
- Define details of each step in the recall process and person responsible for each item
 - Scope of recall
 - Regulatory agency communication
 - Recall initiation
 - Customer notification
 - Information and data compilation
 - Document gathering
 - Securing inventory of affected lot(s) in your control
 - Product disposition
 - Documentation

External Notification

- Notify regulatory agencies
 - FDA and state recall coordinator
- Contact customers affected by the recall
 - Identify product and how to return or dispose of it
- Notify the public when appropriate
 - Required for Class I and some Class II recalls
 - SAHCODA*

SAHCODHA*

- Serious
- Adverse
- Health
- Consequences or
- Death to
- Humans or
- Animals



Hazards associated with a Class I Recall

- Pathogens
- Allergens

Identification and Verification of Lot Information

- Identify product involved in a recall with specific markings
 - Inner packaging (where appropriate)
 - Outer packaging (where appropriate)
 - Case
- Identify quantities of product involved in a recall
 - Facilitates metrics involved in the recovery of suspect product

Effectiveness Checks

- Daily reconciliation of quantity recovered versus total
- Consignee response and follow up
- Recall effectiveness
 - $100 \times (\# \text{ cases recovered} / \text{total cases shipped})$
- Regulatory effectiveness audits

Product Disposition

- Determined based on the hazard, the food and other factors
- May include:
 - Reconditioning
 - Reworking
 - Relabeling
 - Diverting to a use that does not present safety concern
 - Destruction

Corrective Action Related to Recalls

- Reanalysis of the Food Safety Plan is required
- May result in:
 - Modification of the Food Safety Plan
 - Retraining to enhance implementation effectiveness
 - Other actions to prevent recurrence of the problem
- Maintain a log of decisions made throughout recall
- After recall is completed, conduct review meeting

Periodically Test the System – Mock Recall

- Verify information in the recall plan
 - Contact information, product descriptions, templates, customer lists, supplier lists, etc.
- Test the recall team
 - Can they determine if a recall would be needed?
 - Are the right people on the team and are there alternates?
 - Do they know how to contact technical help if needed?
 - Can they trace product one-step forward and one-step back?
 - Can they create records, logs, product descriptions, press releases, etc.?

Recall Classifications

- Actions taken by a firm to remove a violative product from the market
 - **Class I recall:** reasonable probability of serious adverse health consequences or death
 - **Class II recall:** may cause temporary or medically reversible adverse health consequences or where the probability of serious adverse health consequences is remote
 - **Class III recall:** not likely to cause adverse health consequences
- May be conducted on a firm's own initiative, by FDA or state request, or by FDA or state order

Examples of Class I Recalls

- Pathogen Contamination
 - *Listeria monocytogenes*
 - cantaloupe
 - *Salmonella*
 - shell eggs
 - *Escherichia coli (E. coli) O157:H7*
 - raw spinach/romaine lettuce
 - *Clostridium botulinum* (toxin)
 - canned chili

Examples of Class I Recalls

- Undeclared Allergens
 - **Peanuts** (peanut butter, peanut flour, peanut protein)
 - **Tree Nuts** (almonds, chestnuts, macadamias, pecans, walnuts, hazelnuts or filberts, cashews, brazil nuts, hickory nuts, pistachios and pine nuts)
 - **Egg** (egg yolk, egg white/albumin, meringue, ovalbumin)
 - **Milk** (butter, buttermilk, casein, cheese, cottage cheese, curds, whey, lactose, caseinate)
 - **Fish** (fresh or saltwater)
 - **Crustacea** (shrimp, lobster, crab, crayfish)
 - **Soybeans** (miso, tofu, soy flour)

Examples of Class I Recalls

- Other
 - Undeclared Sulfites
 - equal to, or greater than, 10 mg/serving
 - Foreign objects
 - metal (classification depends on shape and size)
 - glass

Typical Actions for a Class I Recall

- Issuance of public warning/Press Release and post a placard at point of sale (POS) when applicable
- Immediately notify consignees and direct them to immediately notify their consignees/customers.
- Do not forget internet sales - immediately notify those customers as well.

Typical Actions for a Class I Recall

- The purpose for this notification is to:
 - Immediately remove product from consumers
 - Immediately remove product from store/retail shelves
 - Immediately stop product from further distribution

Typical Action for a Class I Recall

- 100% effectiveness checks (calling and/or e-mailing consignees to verify recall)
- Provide written weekly status (progress) reports to the State/FDA recall coordinator

Reportable Food Registry

- You are required to file electronically in the Reportable Food Registry (RFR) if consumption of your product could result in a serious adverse health consequence or death to humans or animals.
- Infant formula and dietary supplements are exempt.
- <http://www.fda.gov/Food/ComplianceEnforcement/RFR/default.htm>

Examples of Class II Recalls

- Undeclared Allergens
 - **wheat**
 - **coconut**
 - **An ingredient such as butter is listed, but milk is not listed as a sub-ingredient of butter (or listed anywhere else)**

Allergen Labeling – Class II

- Sources of allergens (ingredients) must be must be declared in the ingredient statement.
- Example: “Ingredients: semolina (wheat), rice flour, rolled oats, pine nuts, tomato juice, whey (milk), sodium caseinate (milk) and natural flavoring (peanuts).”

Allergen Labeling – Class II

- If you also choose to use a “Contains” statement, all the allergen ingredients must be listed.
- The following “Contains” statement could appear at the end of, or immediately adjacent to, the list of ingredients:
- Example: “Contains wheat, milk, pine nuts and peanuts.”

Examples of Class II Recalls

- Undeclared Colors
 - FD&C Yellow No. 5
 - FD&C Yellow No. 6
- Undeclared Sulfites
 - Equal to 3.7 mg/serving, or greater, up to 9.9 mg/serving

An example of sulfite levels

Start with the detected sulfite level of 50 ppm. The product's label reads one serving size is 3 ounces (85 g).

$50 \text{ mcg/g} \times 85 \text{ g} = 4250 \text{ mcg} (4.25 \text{ mg})$ sulfite per serving.

4.25 mg/serving would be a Class II Recall

Example of Class II Recalls

- Foreign objects
 - metal
 - classification depends on shape and size
- Under pasteurized products
 - Example: Cheese manufactured from under pasteurized raw milk that may be contaminated with *Salmonella*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, or *E. coli*

Typical Actions for a Class II Recall

- No issuance of a public warning/Press Release (though a placard may be considered in some instances)
- Notify all consignees (usually via e-mail or telephone)
- 10 – 50% effectiveness checks
- Monthly status (progress) reports to State/FDA Recall Coordinator

Examples of Class III Recalls

- Filth in foods
- Minor labeling error
- Undeclared sulfite levels, below 3.7mg/serving
- Food spoilage caused by mold/yeast (unless linked to illness, then upgraded)

Typical action for Class III Recall

- No issuance of public warning/press release
- Notification to wholesale/retail level
- Limited or no effectiveness checks
- Monthly status (progress) reports to State/FDA Recall Coordinator

Market Withdrawal

- A marketed product
- Product is in distribution channels
- Not in violation of the FD&C Act
- Not subject to legal action by the State/FDA

Stock Recovery

- Non-marketed product
- Product has not left direct control of the company.

FDA WEBSITES

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Convert Select


Home > Safety > Recalls, Market Withdrawals, & Safety Alerts > Industry Guidance

Industry Guidance For Recalls

SHARE TWEET LINKEDIN PIN IT EMAIL PRINT

Information on Recalls of FDA Regulated Products

- [Public Warning and Notification of Recalls Under 21 CFR Part 7, Subpart C Guidance for Industry and FDA Staff](#)
- [Industry Recall Guidance: Product Recalls, Including Removals and Corrections](#)
- [Recalls Background and Definitions](#)
- [Recall Regulations in 21 CFR Part 7](#)
- Index of Model Press Releases:
 - [Allergens \(Allergy Alert\)](#)
 - [Listeria monocytogenes](#)
 - [Clostridium botulinum](#)
 - [Salmonella \(all serotypes\)](#)
 - [Pet Food and Pet Treats](#)
 - [E. coli 0157:H7](#)
 - [Medical Device](#)
 - [Human Drug](#)



WEBSITES

- **Industry Guidance: Information on Recalls of FDA Regulated Products:**

<https://www.fda.gov/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts/industry-guidance-recalls>

- [Recalls Background and Definitions](#)

WEBSITES

- Index of Model Letter Exhibits in FDA Regulatory Procedures Manual:
 - 7-1 - [Effectiveness Check Letter](#)
 - 7-2 - [Effectiveness Check Response Format](#)
 - 7-3 - [Effectiveness Check Questionnaire](#)
 - 7-4 - [Recall Letter \(generic\)](#)
 - 7-5 - [Recall Return Response Form](#)
 - 7-6 - [Recall Envelope](#)

- [Assisting Interested Parties in Addressing Marketplace Confusion Over the Identity of Products Subject to Recall](#)

WEBSITES

- **21 CFR Part 7 (Recall):**

<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfCFR/CFRSearch.cfm?CFRPart=7>

- **Enforcement Report:**

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/EnforcementReports/default.htm>

WEBSITES

- **Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act (FALCPA): FALCPA**

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/Allergens/ucm106187.htm>

- **Reportable Food Registry (RFR):**

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/ComplianceEnforcement/RFR/default.htm>

WEBSITES

- **FDA Recall Coordinators nationwide:**

<https://www.fda.gov/safety/industry-guidance-recalls/ora-recall-coordinators>

- GENERAL: <http://www.fda.gov>

ADEC Recall Coordinator:

- Noelani Thompson

Email: Noelani.Thompson@alaska.gov

FDA OHAF-6W Recall Group

- Recall Coordinator - Anh Trinh Nguyen

Email: orasearecalls@fda.hhs.gov

<https://www.ifsh.iit.edu/fspca/fspca-materials>

[Company Name]

Recall Plan

Reviewed by: *Signature*, Title

Date: September 1, 2016

This model Recall Plan identifies information that is either required or recommended to facilitate an effective and efficient recall. While a Recall Plan is required by the *Preventive Controls for Human Food* regulation when a hazard requiring a preventive control is identified, no specific format and content is specified. This model contains questions and templates that can be used to develop an individualized Recall Plan. A Recall Plan must be developed as part of your Food Safety Plan records if you identify a hazard requiring a preventive control.

THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?

