

Understanding the Principles of Traceability

Traceability is a way to track the movement of a food one step back and one step forward. This can significantly reduce the time it takes businesses to remove unsafe food product from the market.

Suggested Traceability Activities

- ✓ identify the food: the common name of the food, the name and address of the person who manufactured, prepared, stored, packaged or labelled the food, and tracking information that would trace back to lot code(s)
- ✓ trace the food one step back to the person who provided you with the food, including the date on which the food was provided to you
- ✓ trace the food one step forward to the person to whom you provided the food, including the date on which you provided the food
- ✓ trace the food to each place you moved it before you provided it to another person
- ✓ if applicable, identify and trace back to the ingredients you used to make the food, including the date on which they were provided to you
- ✓ if applicable, identify and trace back to the food animals you slaughtered

www.inspection.gc.ca/safefood

What information is provided on a label

Basic Product Information	Health Safety and Nutrition Information	Food Marketing and Promotion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common Name • List of Ingredients • Net Quantity • Durable Life Date • Grade/Quality • Country of Origin • Name and Address of Responsible Manufacturer, Dealer or Importer • Bilingual (Canada) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructions for Safe Storage • Nutritional Panel • Specific Information for consumers with special dietary needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ label vignettes must be compliant ○ Permissible label claims and promotional information ex. high fibre, low fat

Steps in a Mock Recall – Test your system

- Pick a lot code that has reached consumers, then create a realistic and specific recall scenario
- Identify who will be involved: Recall team? Others?
- Record the time and date when you start
- Follow the steps in your Recall Plan to recall that lot
- Track the product forward from raw materials and/or trace back from the marketplace to the supplier
- Record which customers you would have called
- Create a mock press release and distribution list
- Decide what to do with recalled product
- Record the time you finished the exercise
- Meet with your recall team to discuss problems encountered and how things can be approved and create an action plan to improve your system