

## Programme



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Programme information is available at: www.foodprotection.org

In collaboration with ILSI Europe and the Society for Applied Microbiology. With the technical cooperation of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations.

Symposium held at The Hotel ReeHorst

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## **Food Safety Objectives Validation**

Marcel Zwietering, Wageningen University, The Netherlands

Validation is the collection and evaluation of scientific and technical information to determine if the processes in a food chain, when properly applied, will effectively control the microbiological hazard, or in other words, if the process criteria can reliably deliver a specified performance or food safety objective. In this paper, the ICMSF equation for the prevalence and levels of microorganisms from the initial contamination  $(H_0)$ , reduction  $(\Sigma R)$ , growth and recontamination  $(\Sigma I)$ , and factors influencing these are considered throughout food production until consumption, and in their role in meeting the

FSO. The impact of taking into consideration both the level and the variability of these factors on the proportion of product meeting the FSO has been investigated. In this manner it can be examined where in the process the main factors are found to control the proportion of product meeting the FSO. Furthermore, equivalence in performance, either by reducing the level or the variability in a level, is investigated. Both experimental and statistical aspects are described that can together be combined to support the confidence that a process can conform to a set FSO.

## Parallel Session Wednesday, 18 May, 13.30-15.00, Calluna Room Emerging Risks in Food, from Identification to Communication Chair, Wayne Anderson



The Development of a Process for the Identification of Emerging Risks in the Food Chain

Tobin Robinson, European Food Safety Authority, Italy

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is establishing a data monitoring capacity, data filtering methodology and networking structures to identify emerging risks and drivers of emerging risks in a timely fashion and to communicate these to the risk manager.

Three principle sources of information, that is, the RASFF, media and trade data have been identified and assessed. In addition, the

scientific literature is monitored. While the current data sources monitored are limited, they have been sufficient to enable the elaboration of the procedures for the next steps in the emerging risks identification process. As more data sources become accessible, the process will become more effective.

Networking with stakeholders, MS, EU and international agencies is seen as a key step in developing the effectiveness of this process, and the structures for carrying this out effectively are being developed.