

Joint Statement
US Department of Labor's OSHA Assistant Secretary David Michaels and
US FDA Deputy Commissioner for Foods Michael R. Taylor

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recognize the importance of close cooperation and collaboration between enforcement agencies tasked to prevent illnesses and injuries to workers and the public. The FDA and OSHA therefore agree to share relevant information obtained during their respective inspections of facilities where food is produced, processed or held.

FDA is responsible for protecting the public health by ensuring the safety and security of our nation's food supply. OSHA's role is to set and enforce standards that will ensure safe and healthful working conditions for working men and women and to provide training, outreach, education and assistance.

When inspecting facilities in furtherance of these roles, FDA investigators and OSHA compliance officers may observe conditions or obtain information relevant to the other agency's safety and health mission. FDA and OSHA are committed to sharing information on health or safety-related problems that are relevant to the regulatory and enforcement responsibilities of the other agency.

FDA and OSHA officials met on September 09, 2010 to affirm their mutual commitment to sharing relevant health and safety-related information and to explore options for establishing formal communication procedures.

By December 31, 2010, FDA and OSHA will develop a practicable process and criteria for information sharing and a plan for implementation that will include training for appropriate staff.



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Assistant Secretary
Occupational Safety and Health Administration



Michael R. Taylor
Deputy Commissioner for Foods
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

SEP 16 2010

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