

Illinois Institute of Technology
National Center for Food Safety
and Technology

Leveraging

00N-0001



Vision Statement

The National Center for Food Safety and Technology (NCFST) is a unique consortium of leading food companies, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and university-based food scientists working together to establish the criteria to ensure the effectiveness of processing and packaging technologies. By bringing together key players in food safety regulation and technology development, the NCFST provides a sound scientific basis for policy decisions affecting the nation's food supply. The food industry and consumers benefit from improved processing and packaging systems that assure food safety.



National Center for Food Safety and Technology

exists On site

NATIONAL CENTER FOR FOOD SAFETY AND TECHNOLOGY
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

HOFFET CAMPUS

ACCREDITED BY THE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TECHNOLOGICAL
EDUCATION AND THE ADMINISTRATION
OF RESEARCH INSTITUTES
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
FOOD BUILDING

National Center for Food Safety and Technology

- **Founded in 1988 with a \$7 million gift of 5 buildings to IIT and a \$3.7 million start-up funding from FDA**
- **Participating in the consortium: 76 food-based companies, 16 FDA scientists on site and FDA scientists in Washington and Districts, 48 IIT research faculty, staff and the U of I.**
- **Total funding \$5.5 million/year including yearly funding of \$3 million from FDA, rest from companies' dues, rental income, extramural grants and contracts.**

IIT



NCFST Does Research on Food Safety

- Biotechnology
- Food Safety HACCP
- Processing
- Packaging



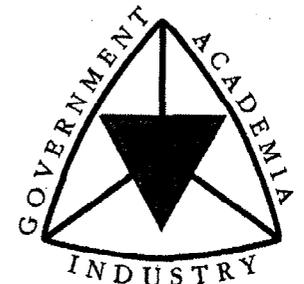
Leveraging Activities at NCFST

- Collaborative Research Program
- Symposia
- Workshops
- Short Courses
- Task Force
- Pilot Plant



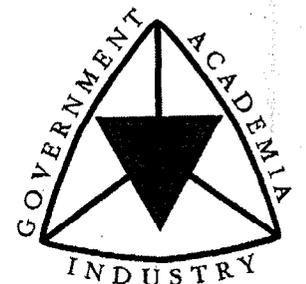
Collaborative Research Program

- Each Project Has Researchers from Industry, Academia and Government
- Each Project Has Oversight, Accountability and Deliverables
- Best Available Expertise Identified for Each Project
- Work Conducted in State-of-the-Art Pilot Plant



Outreach Programs: Symposia, Short Courses and Workshops

- Best Available Expertise
- Shared Resources
- Costs of Program are Defrayed by Fees
- Flexibility and Timeliness



Leveraging Resources: Alfalfa Sprout Task Force

- Alfalfa Sprouts Linked to Numerous Outbreaks
- Highest Risk Product in Supermarket
- Small Businesses Grow Sprouts
- Contamination Thought to Come From Seeds
- 5-D Process Needed to Improve Safety
- Task Force Formed Coordinating the efforts of the FDA, USDA, EPA, U of Massachusetts, University of Georgia, IIT and ISGA

IIT



Leveraging Accomplishments: Alfalfa Sprout Task Force

- International Sprout Growers Association Raised \$23,000 for Research On Sprout Safety
- Research Conducted on E-beam Irradiation, Gamma, Chemical Disinfection and Thermal Processing
- Methods Developed for Sampling Seed and Crops for Pathogens



Why Leverage?

- Increase Resources for Research
- Ownership
- Accountability
- Direct Communication with Stakeholders
- Best Available Expertise
- Timeliness



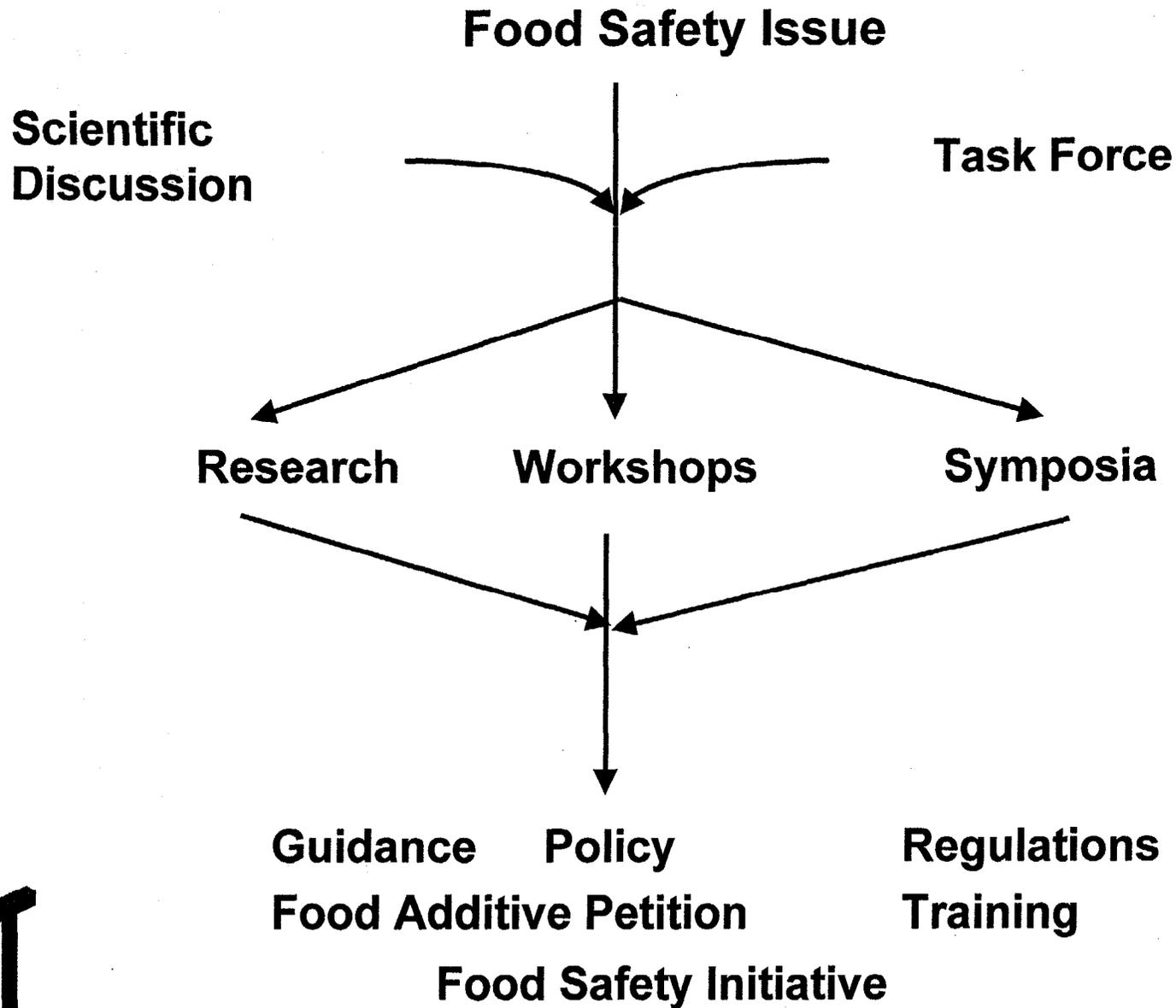
Plastic Irradiation Task Force

- E-beam Emerging as the Tool of Choice for Irradiation of Foods
- Only Package Material for E-beam Irradiation is EVA
- White Paper Written by NCFST's Dr. Sadler Demonstrates Equivalency of E-beam and Gamma Irradiation, Petition Filed by IIT
- Involved Over 20 Companies in Research Program for Approval of New Plastics Contributing \$288,000

IIT



NCFST Programs: *Relation to FDA Programs*



Leveraging at NCFST

- Way of Life
- Resources
- Accountability
- Deliverables
- Expertise and Common Sense
- Communications
- Common Food Safety Goals

