

## Announcement –

# Availability of the RRT Best Practices Manual (New Edition – 2013)

June 6, 2013

FDA's Office of Partnerships (OP) is pleased to announce the availability of the 2013 Edition of the Rapid Response Teams (RRT) Best Practices Manual. The 2013 Edition includes seven (7) new chapters (see below for more details) in addition to the seven (7) existing chapters from the 2011 Edition ('Volume 1').

### How can I access the RRT Best Practices Manual?

Email [OP-ORA@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:OP-ORA@fda.hhs.gov) to receive a PDF copy of the 2013 edition of the RRT Best Practices Manual.

### What is in the RRT Best Practices Manual?

The RRT Best Practices Manual documents the best practices of the nine pilot RRTs for developing capabilities for integrated food safety program responses to all-hazards food/feed emergencies. Each chapter provides information, definitions, tools and examples that organizations can use to incrementally develop these core capabilities.

There are 14 chapters featured within the 2013 Edition of the RRT Best Practices Manual, seven (7) of which are new to this edition (in orange font). Updates to any previously existing chapters are documented in the 'Change History' section of each chapter.

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|--|---|
| 1. Working With Other Agencies                     | 8. Training                             |
| 2. <b>Federal-State Cooperative Programs (new)</b> | 9. Tracebacks                           |
| 3. <b>Industry Relations (new)</b>                 | 10. Joint Inspections & Investigations  |
| 4. <b>CIFOR (new)</b>                              | 11. <b>Environmental Sampling (new)</b> |
| 5. Food Emergency Response Plan                    | 12. <b>Recalls (new)</b>                |
| 6. Communication SOPs                              | 13. <b>After Action Reviews (new)</b>   |
| 7. Incident Command System                         | 14. <b>Metrics (new)</b>                |

The 2013 Edition also includes several updates to the 'Relevant Concepts & Tools' section, including addition of a RRT Capacity Building Process and crosswalks of the RRT Best Practices Manual with the Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response (CIFOR) Guidelines and the Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards (MFRPS) Standard 5. We welcome any and all feedback on the RRT Manual at [OP-ORA@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:OP-ORA@fda.hhs.gov).

More information on the RRT Best Practices Manual, including the development/vetting process is available at: <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/ForFederalStateandLocalOfficials/CooperativeAgreementsCRADAsGrants/UCM354531.pdf>.

### What is the RRT Program?

The RRT Program is a cooperative agreement program between FDA and state partners, which provides funding for improving rapid response to all-hazards food/feed emergencies and invests in strengthening food program infrastructure. A key area of focus for the RRTs is to develop models that can be used and adopted by other programs; the RRT Best Practices Manual is the product of that initiative.

### Stay in touch with the RRT Program

Check in on the progress of the RRT Program any time by visiting our website,

<http://www.fda.gov/ForFederalStateandLocalOfficials/CooperativeAgreementsCRADAsGrants/ucm297407.htm>, and as always, feel free to contact us anytime at [OP-ORA@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:OP-ORA@fda.hhs.gov).