Fundamentals of HACCP II
Hazard Analysis

EIAO Training
Objectives

- Describe the significance of the hazard analysis on an establishment’s HACCP system.
- Describe when and how to verify the adequacy of an establishment’s hazard analysis.
- Identify situations in which the establishment has clearly failed to adequately conduct and/or support its hazard analysis.
- Identify when further guidance may be necessary to reach a noncompliance decision.
Purpose of this Training

- Some establishments may not have conducted an adequate hazard analysis
- A thorough hazard analysis is the key to development of an effective HACCP plan
- An inadequate hazard analysis results in an inadequate HACCP plan regardless of how well the plan is implemented
- Inspection personnel must be able to verify that an establishment’s hazard analysis meets regulatory requirements
The Hazard Analysis

- Foundation of entire HACCP System
  - Must be thorough and well supported
  - Considers all potential biological, chemical, and physical food safety hazards
  - Determine the food safety hazards reasonably likely to occur in its process
  - Establish controls for those hazards
Inadequate HA = Insanitary Conditions?

- Insanitary Conditions
  - Filth, like rodent droppings
  - Failure to execute measures intended to ensure sanitary standards are maintained
Conducting a Hazard Analysis

- HA involves 3 general steps:
  - Hazard identification
  - Hazard evaluation
  - Determine control(s) for hazards RLTO

3 Steps
Conducting a Hazard Analysis

- **Identification step**
  - Identifies all potential hazards in its production process
  - Consider each step in the process
    - Raw materials, ingredients, activities, storage methods, distribution, intended use or consumer
Conducting a Hazard Analysis

- Evaluation Step
  - Evaluates all hazards to determine likelihood of the risk in the process
Conducting a Hazard Analysis

- Identifying Controls Step
  - For hazards RLTO establishment determines controls to prevent, eliminate, or reduce to acceptable levels
  - Foundation of CCPs in HACCP Plan
Hazard Analysis Workshop I

- What is your current understanding of the importance of the hazard analysis (HA)?
- What are the possible implications of doing a less than thorough HA?
- Describe the thought process a plant will use in the HA?
- Discuss it in your groups
- Be ready to “report out”
Common Hazards

- In this section we will look at common hazards for the various processes.
- Refer to the Hazards Guide
Definition

- Food safety hazard
  - A biological, chemical, or physical agent that is likely to cause illness or injury if not controlled
Biological Hazards

- Bacteria
- Toxins
- Parasites
- Viruses
Biological Hazards
Raw Products

- Pathogens most commonly found in raw products as a result of slaughter
  - *Salmonella*
  - *Campylobacter*
  - *E. coli O157:H7*
Biological Hazards
Raw Products

- SRMs in beef designated as inedible
- Downers shown to be higher risk for BSE transmission
- Must be considered in hazard analysis of beef operations
Biological Hazards
Raw Products

- Pathogen outgrowth must be considered in the hazard analysis
  - Storage
  - Thawing
  - Any step where conditions may allow proliferation of pathogens
Biological Hazards
RTE/NRTE Products

• Pathogens of concern in RTE/NRTE products include:
  • *Salmonella*
  • *E. coli* O157:H7
  • *Listeria monocytogenes*
Controls for Biological Hazards

- Control Methods
  - Temperature
  - Acidity
  - Salt and drying
  - Lethality
  - Stabilization
Biological Hazards
RTE/NRTE Products

- Parasitic hazard NRTE pork products
  - Trichinella spiralis

- Control of Parasites
  - Freezing
  - Cooking
  - Low Water Activity (Aw)
Biological Hazards
RTE/NRTE Products

- Toxins in RTE/NRTE products from outgrowth of:
  - *Clostridium botulinum*
  - *Clostridium perfringens*
  - *Staphylococcus aureus*
Controls for Biological Hazards

• Control of Toxins
  • Prevention
    • Proper retorting/commercially sterile procedures
    • Stabilization
    • Fermentation
Biological Hazards
RTE/NRTE Products

• Primary public health concern in RTE products is *Listeria monocytogenes*
  • Post-lethality contamination in the processing environment
  • Consumer not expected to cook product
  • Results in exposure to the pathogen
  • Highest mortality rate
Biological Hazards
RTE/NRTE Products

- Other public health concerns in NRTE products
  - NRTE products may still contain pathogenic bacteria
Biological Hazards
RTE/NRTE Products

- Cross contamination potential from raw products is a major area of concern
- Should be considered in hazard analysis
Controls for Biological Hazards

- Control Methods
  - Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs)
  - Sanitation procedures
  - Employee hygiene
  - Separation of not-ready-to-eat and ready-to-eat
Controls for Biological Hazards

- Control Methods for Pathogens
  - Post-lethality pasteurization
- Antimicrobials
Chemical Hazards
Chemical Hazards

• Five sources of chemical hazards
  • Agriculture chemicals – animal drugs
  • Establishment chemicals
  • Naturally occurring toxicants
  • Food chemicals
  • Environmental contaminants
Chemical Hazards

• Food Allergens
  • Peanuts
  • Soybeans
  • Milk
  • Eggs
  • Fish
  • Crustacea
  • Tree nuts
  • Wheat
Chemical Hazards

- Food Allergens
  - Protein in these foods or food ingredients has been shown to result in an adverse immunological reaction in sensitive individuals.
  - Highly refined oils (e.g., peanut and soybean) may not be a concern because the protein is removed.
Chemical Hazards

• Food Sensitivities or Intolerances
  • Potential sources of food intolerances which are caused by an adverse reaction in sensitive individuals to the ingredient itself or its chemical composition.
    • Examples, monosodium glutamate (MSG), sulfites, lactose, and Yellow 5 (tartrazine)
Controls for Chemical Hazards

- Controls for allergens/ingredients of public health concern
  - Ensure ingredients which may cause adverse reactions are controlled
  - Consider the potential hazard of cross-contamination and non-declaration of ingredients in the hazard analysis
Controls for Chemical Hazards

- Possible controls for allergens/ingredients of public health concern
  - Develop Allergen Awareness and Control Plan (ACP) within the HACCP system
  - Evaluate SSOP and modify it to include procedures to prevent cross contamination between products.
Controls for Chemical Hazards

- Controls for other chemical hazards
  - Intended use
  - Appropriate concentrations
  - Proper storage
  - Labeling
  - Letters of guaranty
Physical Hazards

- May cause physical injury due to size or shape of the object(s)
Physical Hazards Controls

- Control Methods
  - Visual observations
  - Sanitation procedures
  - SOPs for product handling
  - GMPs for maintenance, inspections
  - Foreign materials detection
Evaluating Hazards

- Based on:
  - Severity
  - Likelihood

- Arbitrary decisions can lead to:
  - CCPs unrelated to product safety
  - No CCP for controlling a high risk hazard
Hazard Analysis Decisions

- Reasonably Likely To Occur
  - CCP somewhere in the process
  - Support and validation for CCP

- Not Reasonably Likely To Occur
  - Nature of process or product prevents the hazard from occurring
  - Prerequisite programs to prevent the hazard from occurring
Pop Quiz

• Which regulatory citations have to do with an establishment’s hazard analysis?
9 CFR 417.2(a)(1) Hazard Analysis

- Every official establishment shall conduct, or have conducted for it, a hazard analysis to determine the food safety hazards reasonably likely to occur in the production process and identify the preventive measures the establishment can apply to control those hazards.
The hazard analysis shall include food safety hazards that can occur before, during, and after entry into the establishment. A food safety hazard that is reasonably likely to occur is one for which a prudent establishment would establish controls because it historically has occurred, or because there is a reasonable possibility that it will occur in the particular type of product being processed, in the absence of those controls.
Noncompliance with 417.2(a)(1)

- Failure to conduct a hazard analysis for a given product/process
- Failure to consider all hazards commonly associated with the particular product or process
- Failure to identify control measures the establishment can apply to the food safety hazards
Flow Chart

- 9 CFR 417.2(a)(2)
  - A flow chart describing the steps of each process and product flow in the establishment shall be prepared, and the intended use or consumers of the finished product shall be identified.
Noncompliance with 417.2(a)(2)

- Failure to include a flow chart that describes (diagrams) the steps of each process and production flow in the establishment
- Failure to identify the intended use or consumers of the finished product
Hazard Analysis Records

- 9 CFR 417.5(a)(1)
  - The establishment shall maintain the following records documenting the establishment’s HACCP plan:
    1. The written hazard analysis prescribed in § 417.2(a) of this part, including all supporting documentation.
Noncompliance with 417.5(a)(1)

- No written hazard analysis
- No written description for intended use or consumer of the product
- No documentation adequately supporting one or more decisions in the hazard analysis
Hazard Analysis Verification

Start HAV

Review establishment's flowchart

Does flowchart represent actual process?

Yes

Review hazard analysis (HA)

Does the HA consider appropriate hazards?

No

No

Consult with supervisor if uncertain about noncompliance!

Yes

Review HACCP Plan

One or more CCPs to control the hazard?

No

Noncompliance

Yes

Go to validation

Prerequisite Program

Appears to prevent hazard?

No

Review Other Support

Review Prerequisite Program Records

Yes

Yes

Records indicate ongoing effective implementation?

No

No

Repeat this process for each potential hazard
Start HAV → Review establishment's flowchart

Does flowchart represent actual process?

Yes → Review hazard analysis (HA)

No → Note noncompliance → Continue
The plant produces fully-cooked ham products. In the post-lethality product packaging area, you observe employees mixing and applying a honey glaze solution to hams just before sealing the package. You have not observed production of this glazed product before, and the plant supervisor explains the glazed hams are only produced seasonally. You review the plant's fully cooked ham flowchart and HA. There are no steps identified for mixing or applying a glaze solution. The HACCP Coordinator explains that any potential hazards were considered in product formulation steps, but in the flowchart you note all steps associated with formulation occur prior to cooking.
Repeat for each process step

Review hazard analysis (HA)

Does the HA consider appropriate hazards?

Is the hazard RLTO?

Yes

No

Note noncompliance

Continue
Appropriate Hazards
Noncompliance Example

- You review the slaughter hazard analysis at a plant that slaughters cull dairy cows.
- You observe that drug residues are not considered as a potential hazard.
Is the hazard RLTO?

Yes

Review HACCP Plan

How does establishment support hazard NRLTO?

No

Repeat for each potential hazard

Other Information

Review Prerequisite Program Records

Other Support
One or more CCPs to control the hazard?

- Yes: Continue until HA review is complete.
- No: Note noncompliance.

Go to validation

Review HACCP Plan
Prerequisite Program Records

Review Prerequisite Program Records

Prerequisite program appears to prevent hazard?
- Yes
  - Records indicate ongoing effective implementation?
    - Yes
      - Continue until HA review is complete
    - No
      - Note noncompliance
- No
  - Go to validation
Does information support that hazard NRLTO?

If no, note noncompliance.

If yes, continue until HA review is complete.

If no, go to validation.

Review Other Support.
### Simple Support Example 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Food Safety Hazard</th>
<th>RLTO?</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thawing Frozen Meat</td>
<td>Biological Outgrowth of pathogens</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Thawing SOP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chemical No common hazards</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Meat and Poultry Hazards and Controls Guide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Physical No common hazards</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Meat and Poultry Hazards and Controls Guide</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Simple Support Example 2

- A plant receives raw boneless beef cuts and processes them into steaks, roasts and non-intact products. In considering Specified Risk Materials (SRMs) as a potential hazard, the plant determines that since boneless cuts of beef do not contain SRMs, they are a hazard not reasonably likely to occur based on the nature of the raw materials.

- The plant supports this decision with records of invoices for incoming products showing receipt of only boneless products.
A plant that receives only fully cooked poultry products for assembly of meal kits would easily be able to conclude that Salmonella is a hazard not reasonably likely to occur in their incoming poultry products because of their fully cooked nature.
E. coli O157:H7 is a food safety hazard known to be associated with raw ground beef and ground beef components. If a plant’s hazard analysis determines that E. coli O157:H7 is not reasonably likely to occur in raw ground beef, FSIS would expect the establishment to have one or more written programs to support that decision, and documentation to support the ongoing effectiveness of those programs in preventing E. coli O157:H7.
Complex Support
Noncompliance Example

- You review the hazard analysis for a large beef slaughter and processing plant. You observe that the plant identified *E. coli* O157:H7 as a potential hazard at dehiding, but judged it NRLTO.
- You ask for documentation supporting the decision. The plant’s HACCP manager presents you with 2-years of test results, and states, “We’ve never had a problem with it before.”
- You review the testing program and results. You note that sponge samples from 10 carcasses have been collected and tested quarterly.
Types of Supporting Documentation

- Historical data
- Scientific journal articles
- Plant generated data
- Other regulatory requirements
- Pathogen modeling program
- Processing authority
Historical Data as Support

- Verify records supporting a claim about historical conditions
- Consider whether the historical records are reflective of current plant operations
- Look for a recordkeeping system that would have recorded the event if it occurred
While reviewing a plant's raw, not ground HA, you observe that a NRLTO decision was made for potential hazards at the returned product step. Justification for the decision states, “All returned product is destroyed through inedible rendering.” Further investigation reveals the plant has no records documenting the destruction of returned product; however, 3 months of receiving logs indicate the plant has had deliveries of returned product at least once a month.
Scientific Documents as Support

- Assess whether:
  - Conditions in document or study are representative of those in the plant’s process
  - Document describes how and why the data support the conclusion
A plant is using a study regarding *E. coli* O157:H7 being used to support decisions regarding *Salmonella* in pork.

A plant presents a scientific document as support for a not reasonably likely to occur decision, but the information appears to be outdated based on more recent FSIS guidance.
Plant Generated Data as Support

- Challenge studies
- Pathogen modeling programs
- Microbiological test results
  - Frequency of sampling
  - Sample selection
  - Sampling method
  - Sample handling
  - Analytical method
Noncompliance Examples

- A plant presents a spreadsheet of test results as the sole support for a decision, with no accompanying explanation or interpretation of how the test results support the NRLTO decision.

- A plant’s tests for *E. coli* O157:H7 was always negative during periods when FSIS or customer tests were positive.
Other Regulations or FSIS Guidance Materials as Support

- Use regulations or other FSIS guidance to support a not reasonably likely to occur decision
- Must follow those regulatory requirements in their entirety or else have additional support
- Failure to do so will result in noncompliance
Inspection personnel must verify that establishments:

- Conduct and maintain an adequate hazard analysis
- Maintain documentation supporting decisions made in the hazard analysis
- Demonstrate ongoing support for decisions made in the hazard analysis
- Do not have results that contradict decisions made in the hazard analysis
Hazard Analysis Workshop II

- Read the beef slaughter hazard analysis
- Discuss your observations and any concerns in your group
- Be ready to “report out”