

A photograph of three people standing on a rocky cliff edge, silhouetted against a sunset over a body of water. They have their arms raised in a gesture of triumph or joy. The sky is filled with orange and yellow light from the setting sun, and the water below is calm. In the distance, there are hills and a small town.

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Webinar Wednesdays

Top 7 Takeaways from the IFS PACsecure Packaging Standard & COVID-19 Webinar

Featuring Cheryl Sullivan and Pius Gasser from IFS North America, and Patrick Subban from Silgan Plastics

Webinar took place May 13, 2020

1 Of the food recalls reported in North America, almost 50% are related to mislabelling. Many of these recalls are associated with allergens, such as ingredients not listed, and can often pose serious health risks for the consumer.

2 In Canada and the US legal responsibility is on brand owners and importers to demonstrate the safety and traceability of their packaging. A key point to keep in mind is that these responsibilities relate to the 'intended use' of the packaging. So as packaging moves from manufacturers to distributors it's important to ask where the packaging is ending-up?

3 COVID-19 has shone a light on the importance of having a Crisis Management Plan. Major challenges like a pandemic affect every area of an organization, and a properly trained Crisis Management Team is essential to implement the plan.

4 It's important to note that IFS PAC Secure provides certification not only for relevant processes, but also for products made with all the principal packaging materials (paper, plastics, glass, metals etc.). The certification applies to food and non-food applications, and requirements have been established to meet the needs of specific areas, such as cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, and home and laundry products.

5

IFS PAC Secure is not only for large multinational corporations but also for individual businesses. Many members are independent and/or smaller companies that will have the opportunity to gradually work through a two-level assessment process towards certification.

6

If Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) is led by your Quality Control team, it may not be as effective or sustainable as it could be. IFS PAC Secure promotes the integration of certification requirements with your established areas of organizational responsibility.

7

A useful tool to help implement GMP, and IFS PAC Secure in particular, is the Balanced Scorecard Approach, that helps align organizational mission and values with key performance metrics. Whichever tool you may use, an important way to make improvements is through a consistent (e.g. quarterly) Management Review Process that refers back to your key metrics.

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