**Conference for Food Protection**

**2012 Issue Form**

**Internal Number: 091**

**Issue: 2012 I-041**

**Title:**

Reuse-Refill of Multi-use Tableware (To go containers)

**Recommended Solution: The Conference recommends...:**

that a letter be sent to the FDA requesting amendments to the 2009 Food Code (as modified by the Supplement issued in 2011), Sections 3-304.17 and 4-603.17 specifically, and other affected Food Code sections FDA identifies, to allow food establishments operating in institutional type settings with known consumers to provide reusable tableware/containers which can be returned and reused/refilled by that food establishment.

In amending those sections, language should:

1. identify specific criteria and procedures for food establishment approval of the process
2. verify the consumer population (eg, IDs, Swipe Cards)
3. confirm tableware/containers comply with 2009 Food Code Chapter 4 standards for Multi-use Equipment & Utensils
4. establish procedures for return/reuse of tableware/containers that include inspection by a food employee
5. establish procedures for limiting cross-contamination potential when tableware/containers are returned, inspected, cleaned and sanitized, and stored.

It is the policy of the Conference for Food Protection to not accept Issues that would endorse a brand name or a commercial proprietary process.