

**Conference for Food Protection
2016 Issue Form**

Issue: 2016 III-009

Council Recommendation:	Accepted as Submitted _____	Accepted as Amended _____	No Action _____
Delegate Action:	Accepted _____	Rejected _____	

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Issue History:

This is a brand new Issue.

Title:

Updating the Handwashing Procedure to Reflect Liquid/Foam Soaps

Issue you would like the Conference to consider:

Section 2-301.12 of the 2013 FDA Food Code specifies the required handwashing procedure. The first step is to wet the hands.

However, this step does not seem necessary when a liquid or foam soap is used. Liquid and foam soaps allow the soap to be spread without first wetting the hands.

Some manufacturers' directions specify applying the soap to dry hands.

In addition, when the hands are wet before using the dispenser, with the exception of automatic dispensers, moisture is unnecessarily added to the dispenser, which could increase the spread of germs.

Public Health Significance:

Eliminating the requirement to first wet the hands when liquid or foam soaps are used will reduce an unnecessary regulatory burden and decrease unnecessary moisture in food establishments.

Recommended Solution: The Conference recommends...:

a letter be sent to the FDA requesting the 2013 Food Code be amended as follows (language to be added is underlined):

Section 2-301.12

(B) FOOD EMPLOYEES shall use the following cleaning procedure in the order stated to clean their hands and exposed portions of their arms, including surrogate prosthetic devices for hands and arms:

(1) RUnless using a liquid or foam cleaning compound, rinse under clean, running warm water; ^P

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