A committee was charged to identify the benefits to industry for regulatory authorities to achieve Standard 2, 4, and 7 of the Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards. A survey was designed to capture the benefits to industry as outlined in the Committee’s charge and sent to participants in the National Restaurant Association (NRA) and Food Marketing Institute (FMI).

60% of respondents were aware of the Retail Program Standards prior to the survey.

92% of respondents found Program Standard 7, industry participation, to be very valuable.

60% of respondents operate in 10 or fewer states.

40% of respondents were aware of the Retail Program Standards through local regulatory outreach/FDA website.

60% of respondents found Program Standard 7, industry participation, to be very valuable.

Most of the respondents were from larger organizations with many employees & operate in several states.

Level Playing Field

Creates a level playing field for all operators and regulators which should lead to consistency.

Uniformity allows better allocation of resources.

Inspectors are better trained & the inspections are more consistent.

Increased accuracy & confidence in results.

We all benefit from teamwork.

Industry identified that Program Standard 2, properly trained staff, supports a consistent approach to inspections.

90% of respondents found Program Standard 4, quality assurance, to be somewhat or very valuable.

Training supports a consistent, credible approach to inspections.

Training in Program Standard 2 allows more time for industry to focus on food safety rather than disputing improper citations.

True risks are measured and identified.

Added assurance that the inspector is adequately trained & reputable.

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