

Conference for Food Protection Manager Training, Testing, and Certification Committee Interim Report to the Board

Since the last Conference for Food Protection Board meeting, the Manager, Training, Testing, and Certification Committee has met once face-to-face in June, and has planned a teleconference for August 30th. At the meeting, each of the subcommittees gave a report on their particular area as captured below. The discussion from the Education and Training subcommittee brought a significant shift in direction for the Committee.

Logistics:

Discussions about open Committee seats took place with a request to the whole Committee for identifying potential Committee members. Larry Edwards, new to FMI, is requested to fill a vacant industry seat. Patrick Pimentel of the National Sanitation Foundation is requested to fill a regulatory “at large” position.

Communication:

Work is continuing on a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. This document will be circulated to the full Committee for comment, and after revision, submitted for posting on the CFP web site. Also on the web site, the updated Standard reflecting edits made during the 2004 Conference meeting has been posted, and John Marcello’s name needs to be replaced with Roger Hancock’s as the contact person for the Committee.

The need for increased communication with the Board from ANSI and from the ANSI-CFP Accreditation Committee (ACAC) was addressed. The Committee unanimously passed a motion for ANSI to provide the Board with an annual report, delivered in person, during the Fall CFP Board meeting, and written progress reports to every other Board meeting. John Marcello was authorized to speak with Trevor Hayes to determine the specific communication necessary between ACAC and the Board to meet the Board’s needs. Finally, a request was made to Doug Campbell for language to be added to the Committee Bylaws to incorporate these communication steps.

Education & Training:

The majority of the meeting revolved around a new direction for the Committee related to training. Starting with the issue of a standard Job Task Analysis (JTA), and considering the development of a common JTA through the Develop a Curriculum (DACUM) process, the discussion quickly turned to whether the Committee should even involve itself in training issues. This discussion focused on addressing three Conference charges:

- Study education and training as it relates to the CFP Standards, the Committee and Food Safety;
- Determine the proper relationship between education/training and the Committee (should education/training be a component of the Committee’s work or moved to a new Committee);

- Recommend a course of action for the Committee and the Conference in regards to education/training by the next Conference.

Lively discussion with broad participation and many positions ensued. A sampling but not comprehensive list of issues that were raised include:

Training definition

Separation of Training and Certification

Committee structure and conflict of interest

Specificity of guidance provided by the Conference

Trainer qualifications

Call from regulatory bodies for training guidelines

Regulatory bodies still using Annex B as training guidelines

Evaluation and maintenance of training plans

The discussion then turned to bringing in an expert to help the Committee walk through these issues in a way that satisfies the many interests and answers the many questions on the table. The Committee approved a motion to employ a competent professional to assist the Committee in developing a conceptual framework regarding the role of training in food safety. This issue has been forwarded to the Board for consideration.

Standards:

The Standards subcommittee continues to work with ANSI to identify sections of the Standards that need clarification. All recommended changes to the Standard that are passed by the Committee will be properly presented to the full Conference for ratification at the 2006 meeting.

Other Business:

Anne Munoz-Furlong was present to address the Committee on the issue of allergens as part of Food Manager training, testing, and certification process. Though time was set aside on the agenda for her to address the Committee, because of the potential significant change of direction, her issue was deferred until our next conference call.

The committee continues to serve at the pleasure of the Board, and is happy to provide clarification to any point above or otherwise.

Respectfully submitted

on behalf of the Manager Training, Testing, and Certification Committee

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