



AMERICAN FOOD MANUFACTURING SUMMIT 2025

November 4-5, 2025

foodmansummit.com

TOMORROW'S CONNECTION TODAY

Designing a new future for manufacturing, quality and supply chain leaders

- > +1-416-298-7005
- > info@generisgp.com

PROGRAM

PROGRAM • DAY 1

NOVEMBER 4, 2025

* JOIN US FOR THE PRE-EVENT HAPPY HOUR ON NOVEMBER 3, 2024 FROM 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

7:00 am – 8:00 am CST

DELEGATE REGISTRATION AND NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Sponsored by:  revalize

8:00 am – 8:10 am CST

MAYOR'S WELCOME ADDRESS



TOM DAILLY
Mayor
Village of Schaumburg

8:10 am – 8:20 am CST

CHAIR'S WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION



KATIE HOLMAN
VP Supply Chain, Meals and Baking
General Mills

QUALITY & SAFETY



CATHERINE DAVIDSON
VP, Supply Chain, Food Safety and Quality
PepsiCo

INNOVATION



TAKASHI NAKAMURA, PH.D
VP, Corporate R&D and Food Safety
Fresh Del Monte

SUPPLY CHAIN



KRISTEN DAIHES
VP, Global Supply Chain
Mars Snacking

8:20 am – 8:50 am CST

KEYNOTE



ERIC SEIP
SVP, Global Operations, Chief Supply Chain Officer
Ingredion

TRANSFORMING SUPPLY CHAINS: SCALING EXCELLENCE, SAFETY, AND EFFICIENCY

- Redefining global operations and transitioning to a unified global supply chain model
- Harnessing digital tools to enhance visibility and decision-making across supply networks
- How to achieve cost optimization through strategic sourcing and lean practices
- Embedding safety standards ensuring consistent safety excellence across all touchpoints
- Aligning supply chain initiatives with Ingredion's specialties-focused expansion
- Building scalable, adaptive systems to address dynamic market demands

8:50 am – 9:20 am CST

PLENARY



SHANNON BIBLE
Chief Transformation Officer
WK Kellogg Co

SMART MANUFACTURING: DRIVING COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE THROUGH DIGITAL INNOVATION

- Utilizing AI and IoT to optimize production processes and quality control
- Transitioning to cloud-based ERP systems for improved scalability and flexibility
- Implementing automation to address labor shortages and increase productivity
- Developing agile manufacturing capabilities to respond to market changes swiftly
- Enhancing traceability and compliance through integrated digital solutions
- Driving innovation by leveraging data-driven insights and customer feedback

9:20 am – 9:50 am CST

PLENARY



SPEAKER TBA
Vanguard Renewables

REVOLUTIONIZING WASTE MANAGEMENT: TRANSFORMING RISKS INTO SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

- How innovative waste solutions are fueling renewable energy, supporting farmers, and driving a circular economy
- Staying ahead of the curve by addressing regulatory shifts, from organic waste bans to land application permits
- Learning how to recover value from packaged waste while safeguarding your brand's reputation
- Developing a sustainable "Plan B" to mitigate climate risks and enhance operational resilience
- Embracing the industry's growing shift toward "zero waste to landfill" for a cleaner, greener future

9:55 am – 11:35 am CST

REFRESHMENTS, NETWORKING, AND PRE-ARRANGED 1-2-1 MEETINGS

11:40 am – 12:10 pm CST

STREAM SESSIONS

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION



FERNANDO GARCIA VIDAL

VP, Engineering
Monogram Foods

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE THROUGH SCALABLE AND STREAMLINED ENGINEERING

- Align engineering execution with operational goals to deliver scalable, flexible production systems
- Leverage automation and smart manufacturing tools to improve speed, efficiency, and accuracy
- Design facilities and processes that support agility, growth, and long-term business strategies
- Integrate lean principles into engineering strategies to maximize efficiency and reduce waste
- Foster a culture of continuous improvement across engineering and production teams
- Develop resilient project delivery systems that adapt to evolving market and consumer demands

QUALITY & SAFETY



LATONYA MITCHELL PH.D.

Acting Director, Office of Human Food
Inspectorate Central
FDA

STRENGTHENING FOOD SAFETY: NAVIGATING FDA INSPECTION PRIORITIES AND COLLABORATIVE OVERSIGHT IN A CHANGING LANDSCAPE

- Understanding FDA's risk-based approach to prioritizing food facility inspections under FSMA mandates
- Exploring the role of state partnerships in supplementing federal food safety oversight efforts
- Adapting to evolving inspection protocols amid budgetary constraints and organizational changes
- Implementing best practices for compliance to meet FDA inspection expectations effectively
- Leveraging technology to enhance traceability and transparency in food production processes
- Preparing for potential shifts in regulatory responsibilities between federal and state agencies

INNOVATION



SCOTT KOMAR

SVP, Global R&D
Driscoll's

ENSURING CONSUMER TRUST THROUGH SCIENCE-DRIVEN QUALITY AND SAFETY INNOVATIONS

- Utilizing genomics to breed berry varieties with improved resistance to pathogens and spoilage
- Applying sensory science to maintain flavor and texture while meeting rigorous safety standards
- Enhancing supply chain integrity by developing berries with longer shelf life and reduced contamination risk
- Driving sustainable safety with innovations in eco-friendly, protective packaging and clean farming methods
- Leveraging data and AI to predict quality issues and accelerate corrective actions in R&D
- Building strong AGTECH partnerships to advance traceability, compliance, and food safety solutions

SUPPLY CHAIN



KATIE HOLMAN

VP Supply Chain, Meals and Baking
General Mills

BUILDING AGILE, RESILIENT SUPPLY CHAINS: STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- How General Mills is creating actionable supply chain strategies that balance immediate results with future growth
- Innovating across planning, sourcing, manufacturing, and logistics for maximum value creation
- Developing high-performing teams that drive operational excellence and transformational change
- Adopting agile practices to strengthen responsiveness to market and customer needs
- Embedding continuous improvement to enhance efficiency and ensure long-term sustainability
- Leading cross-functional collaboration to drive speed, scalability, and success across supply networks

12:15 pm – 12:45 pm CST

WORKSHOPS

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION



SPEAKER TBA

Fuel Cell Energy

DECARBONIZING FOOD AND BEVERAGE PRODUCTION WITH FUEL CELL TECHNOLOGY

- Case study: How fuel cell technology supports a 260,000 sq. ft. bakery in Connecticut
- Generating on-site power, heat, and CO₂, reducing dependency on grid electricity and external suppliers
- Elevating sustainability and resilience in food and beverage production
- Boosting profitability by integrating fuel cell systems in a competitive, ever-changing market

QUALITY AND SAFETY



KYLE JENSON

VP, Sales
BIOIONIX

SUSTAINABILITY WITH ROI: ELIMINATE CHEMICALS AND SAVE WATER IN FOOD PROCESSING

- Achieving sustainability through chemical elimination, water savings, and a lower carbon footprint
- Developing your own powerful natural cleaners and disinfectants to replace toxic chemicals like PAA, bleach, and ammonia
- Creating a safer workplace with effective, chemical-free sanitization solutions that require no PPE
- Improving food safety and quality by reducing foodborne illness risks, enhancing quality control, and extending shelf life
- Cutting costs by producing your own endless amounts of non-corrosive sanitizers, reduce chemicals, save equipment, and save disposal expenses

INNOVATION



MARTIN BOYD

Chief Marketing Officer
Big Joe Forklifts

DELVING INTO ELECTRIFICATION WITHIN THE INDUSTRIAL LIFT TRUCK MARKET

- The industrial lift truck market has been slowly trending toward electric for decades
- Exploring long-standing barriers that have prevented operations from making the switch to electric that have been disrupted by new technology
- Case Study: The introduction of lithium-ion batteries and fast charging capabilities are rapidly gaining market acceptance and changing the way organizations are thinking about their material handling fleets
- As lithium-ion technology continues to gain acceptance in the material handling industry, lift truck OEMs are now embracing opportunities to improve the overall design of electric trucks for the next generation of operators
- Convergence of two industry trends: Once the industrial market electrifies, the pathway toward automation becomes clear

SUPPLY CHAIN



SPEAKER TBA

System Logistics

TRANSFORMING FOOD MANUFACTURING WITH SMART LOGISTICS

- Leveraging automated storage and retrieval systems for optimization
- Integrating cutting-edge technologies for seamless operations
- Customizing solutions for efficient use of facility layouts
- Adopting energy-efficient and environmentally conscious logistics systems
- Utilizing real-time data for informed decision-making and agility
- Delivering tailored, scalable solutions to meet industry-specific needs

12:50 pm – 1:50 pm CST

LUNCH & LEARN ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS AND OPEN SEATING LUNCH

Benefit from additional learning by joining a moderated roundtable discussion on pressing issues in the industry. Registration is required, and attendance for moderated roundtables on Day 1 is limited to attendees and speakers. Choose from:



PAUL BRADLEY
Senior Director, Product Marketing
TraceGain

LEVERAGING DATA TO FIND COST-EFFECTIVE, HIGH-QUALITY MATERIALS QUICKLY



MOHAMED AZIM
Global Solutions Director
QAD Redzone

ELEVATE YOUR FACTORY FLOOR: BOOSTING PROFITS WITH A CONNECTED WORKFORCE AND CHAMPION AI



SPEAKER TBA
Rentokil

REFINING PEST CONTROL PROTOCOLS: SAFEGUARDING FACILITIES AGAINST EXTERNAL RISKS



GREG SPIRA
Business Advisor
Oliver Wight Americas

BEYOND THE PROCESS, OVERCOMING THE DECISION-MAKING DEFICIT



JOE BUI
Account Director
Infor

TURNING DATA INTO DECISIONS: NAVIGATING COMPLEXITY IN F&B SUPPLY CHAINS



JOSH POWER
Senior Director, Sales
Traction

AI-DRIVEN RELIABILITY: PRACTICAL USE CASES IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY



SPEAKER TBA
Effex Management Solutions

BOOSTING EFFICIENCY: WORKFORCE OPTIMIZATION STRATEGIES TO MAXIMIZE PRODUCTION, QUALITY, AND OPERATIONAL SUCCESS



PAUL DELANEY
President
AMEND Consulting

DRIVING IMPROVEMENT WITH DATA-DRIVEN STRATEGIES AND OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE



JAY HUTCHISON
Senior Vice President of Partnership Development
TEC Services

ENSURING AUDIT EXCELLENCE: HOW STRATEGIC SANITATION STAFFING DELIVERS 100% COMPLIANCE



SPEAKER TBA
Progressive Logistics

IMPROVING SUPPLY CHAIN SPEED AND ACCURACY WITH CENTRALIZED, HIGH-PERFORMANCE WAREHOUSING OPERATIONS



SPEAKER TBA
Squint

TRANSFORMING MANUFACTURING INTELLIGENCE: CAPTURE KNOWLEDGE, STANDARDIZE WORK, AND EMPOWER OPERATORS WITH REAL-TIME INSIGHTS



GLENN KOEPKE
VP, Industry and Solution Strategy
Vector

ACCELERATING SUPPLY CHAINS WITH EBOL AND DIGITAL FACILITIES



STEVE DEITZER
VP, Global Industry, CPG
Rockwell Automation



TODD GILLIAM
Industry Lead, CPG
Rockwell Automation

DATA-DRIVEN STRATEGIES TO MAXIMIZE PRODUCTION YIELD IN FOOD MANUFACTURING



SPEAKER TBA
Oracle

TRANSFORMING FOOD MANUFACTURING WITH CLOUD-DRIVEN EFFICIENCY, AUTOMATION, AND REAL-TIME SUPPLY CHAIN INTELLIGENCE



SPEAKER TBA
Northstar Recycling

MAXIMIZING FOOD MANUFACTURING SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH ZERO-WASTE SOLUTIONS AND SMART RECYCLING PROGRAMS

1:55 pm – 2:25 pm CST

SESSIONS

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION

**MICHAEL WOJTOWICZ**EVP, Supply Chain and Operations
*Buddig and Company***SCALING FOOD MANUFACTURING TO DRIVE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH**

- Developing agile operational frameworks that adapt to shifting market and demand trends
- Strengthening cross-site consistency while empowering local plant-level leadership
- Optimizing workforce training and engagement to reduce turnover and increase productivity
- Building integrated supply chain visibility to improve planning and performance
- Aligning production strategy with long-term business and customer service goals
- Driving efficiency without sacrificing food safety, compliance, or product quality

QUALITY & SAFETY

**CAMPBELL MITCHELL**Head of Food Safety and Compliance
*Kraft Heinz***TRANSFORMING QUALITY WITH AI: INSIGHTS, EFFICIENCY, AND REAL-TIME MONITORING**

- Predicting food safety risks with AI-driven insights and forecasting
- Streamlining quality control processes for greater efficiency and accuracy
- Tracking ingredients and products from source to shelf in real-time
- Utilizing data to proactively resolve issues in FSQA operations
- Meeting regulatory standards with advanced monitoring and automated reporting
- Integrating AI tools to enhance collaboration across FSQA teams

INNOVATION

**GREG HOCKING**VP, Global R&D New Innovation Territories
*Mars***DEVELOPING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS TO SOLVE COMPLEX CHALLENGES AND UNLOCK NEW GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES**

- Empowering sustainable innovation through strategic partnerships and growth ecosystems
- Exploring collaborative models that drive innovation and support sustainable development goals
- Developing strategic partnerships to solve complex challenges and unlock new growth opportunities
- Investing in resilient, long-term solutions aligned with Mars' sustainability commitments

SUPPLY CHAIN

**CATHERINE DAVIDSON**VP, Supply Chain, Food Safety and Quality
*PepsiCo***INTEGRATING FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY INTO SUPPLY CHAIN STRATEGY**

- Implementing standardized protocols to ensure consistent food safety across the supply chain
- Leveraging data analytics to monitor quality metrics and drive continuous improvement
- Collaborating with suppliers to maintain high-quality standards and compliance
- Utilizing technology to enhance traceability and transparency in supply chain processes
- Developing training programs to reinforce food safety practices among supply chain personnel
- Aligning supply chain operations with regulatory requirements and industry best practices

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm CST

WORKSHOPS

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION

**SPEAKER TBA***Nanoprecise Sci Corp***ENHANCING EFFICIENCY WITH AI-POWERED PREDICTIVE MAINTENANCE AND REAL-TIME EQUIPMENT MONITORING**

- Leveraging AI and machine learning to predict equipment failures before they occur
- Implementing real-time monitoring systems to track performance and detect anomalies
- Reducing downtime and maintenance costs by shifting from reactive to predictive strategies
- Integrating smart sensors and data analytics to optimize asset utilization and extend equipment life

QUALITY AND SAFETY

**SPEAKER TBA***Amerisan***TANGIBLE STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING FOOD SAFETY CULTURE**

- How implementing 5S visual management techniques can help identify hazards and drive continuous improvements
- Discovering how leaders can create a compelling vision and communicate effectively to cultivate a robust food safety culture
- Exploring methods to build employee engagement through targeted training, standardization, and recognition programs
- Case studies: Showcasing successful implementations and strategies to overcome common challenges in food safety

INNOVATION

**CARTER LLOYDS**Chief Marketing Officer
*Indeavor***ELIMINATING LABOR INEFFICIENCIES WITH SMART SCHEDULING AND ABSENCE MANAGEMENT**

- Automating employee scheduling to reduce manual workloads and improve supervisor productivity
- Integrating real-time workforce data with ERP and HCM systems for end-to-end labor visibility and control
- Ensuring compliance, reducing absenteeism, and optimizing labor deployment with smart scheduling
- Case Study: Reducing Overtime Costs and Increasing Labor Efficiency at a Dairy Processing Plant

SUPPLY CHAIN

**SPEAKER TBA***Rockwell Automation***DRIVING OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE THROUGH INTELLIGENT AUTOMATION AND CONNECTED MANUFACTURING**

- Leveraging smart automation to enhance throughput and reduce operational downtime
- Connecting IT and OT systems for improved visibility and decision-making
- Driving sustainability with energy-efficient and waste-reducing technologies
- Using real-time data to ensure compliance, traceability, and food safety
- Empowering the workforce with digital tools for better productivity and engagement
- Case study: How a leading food manufacturer transformed operations using Rockwell Automation solutions

3:05 pm – 4:25 pm CST

HAPPY HOUR, NETWORKING AND PRE-ARRANGED 1-2-1 MEETINGS

4:30 pm – 5:00 pm CST

SESSIONS

QUALITY & SAFETY



JUANFRA DEVILLENA
SVP, Quality Assurance and Food Safety
Wayne-Sanderson Farms

HARNESSING DATA ANALYTICS TO ENHANCE FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY IN PRODUCTION

- Implementing data-driven strategies to monitor and improve food safety protocols
- Utilizing predictive analytics to anticipate and mitigate potential contamination risks
- Integrating real-time data collection for proactive quality assurance measures
- Training teams to interpret data effectively for continuous improvement
- Leveraging technology to streamline compliance with food safety regulations
- Collaborating across departments to foster a culture of data-informed decision-making

INNOVATION



MARLENE SIDHU
VP, Innovation
Bimbo Bakeries USA

BAKING THE FUTURE: INNOVATING ICONIC FLAVORS AT BIMBO BAKERIES USA

- Creating a vision for innovation across bread, buns, and baked goods
- Developing teams to lead the future of bakery product innovation
- Evolving iconic brands with differentiated products and strategic pipelines
- Leveraging consumer insights to craft beloved and market-leading baked goods
- Innovating for scalability and excellence in the direct-store delivery model
- Guiding product breakthroughs to support growth across all bakery categories

SUPPLY CHAIN



PAT KEMPEN
VP, Supply Chain Planning
Schreiber Foods

SCALING SMARTER: HOW SCHREIBER FOODS BUILDS AN AGILE, CUSTOMER-FOCUSED SUPPLY CHAIN

- Designing an adaptable, end-to-end supply chain to meet evolving customer and market needs
- Streamlining operations through integrated planning, smart data, and system-wide visibility
- Managing private label and branded complexities with precision and speed
- Delivering flexible, high-volume fulfillment to major foodservice and retail partners
- Driving continuous improvement through strategic partnerships and agile supply models

5:05 pm – 5:35 pm CST

PLENARY



SPEAKER TBA
Effex Management Solutions

TRANSFORMING HIGH-VOLUME WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT TO MAXIMIZE PRODUCTIVITY AND OPERATIONAL STABILITY

- Ensuring 100% daily staffing with a qualified, contingent labor force tailored to high-volume production environments
- Embedding onsite management to drive accountability, streamline communication, and reduce turnover
- Addressing labor shortages and absenteeism with a proactive, market-exclusive staffing model
- Enhancing operational efficiency, minimizing downtime, and improving workforce performance at scale
- Redefining contingent labor strategy to support consistent output, quality, and bottom-line growth

5:35 pm – 6:20 pm CST

PANEL DISCUSSION



VIJAY KRISHNA
Global VP, Quality and Regulatory Affairs
Glanbia Performance Nutrition



TAKASHI NAKAMURA, PH.D
VP, Corporate R&D and Food Safety
Fresh Del Monte



HANS BERGHORST
VP, Assets and Technology
Dairy Farmers of America



CHRIS BURGER
Assistant VP, Manufacturing
Virginia Economic Development Program



JEFF MILLER
VP, Engineering
Aspire Bakeries

TAKING EFFICIENCY AND QUALITY TO THE NEXT LEVEL WITH OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- Implementing lean manufacturing principles to reduce waste and improve overall process efficiency
- Leveraging data analytics to monitor performance and drive continuous improvement across operations
- Developing a culture of accountability and empowerment to sustain high standards of operational excellence
- Integrating advanced technologies like automation and AI to optimize production workflows and reduce downtime
- Balancing cost management with quality control to ensure consistent product excellence
- Enhancing cross-functional collaboration to streamline processes and improve overall operational agility

6:20 pm – 6:30 pm CST

CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION



KATIE HOLMAN
VP Supply Chain, Meals and Baking
General Mills

QUALITY & SAFETY



CATHERINE DAVIDSON
VP, Supply Chain, Food Safety and Quality
PepsiCo

INNOVATION



TAKASHI NAKAMURA, PH.D
VP, Corporate R&D and Food Safety
Fresh Del Monte

SUPPLY CHAIN



KRISTEN DAIHES
VP, Global Supply Chain
Mars Snacking

6:35 pm – 7:35 pm CST

NETWORKING DRINKS RECEPTION

Sponsored by:

PROGRAM • DAY 2

NOVEMBER 5, 2025

7:00 am – 8:00 am CST

NETWORKING BREAKFAST AND EMPOWER HOUR



STACY COBB

VP, Category Commercial, Beverage Creations
Danone



NATHALIE NUNEZ

VP and Chief of Staff, NA Supply Chain
Mondelēz International

MARS WRIGLEY

JAMIE BOYES

VP R&D
Mars Wrigley North America



BECKY CRANE

VP, Manufacturing and Engineering
General Mills



CAITLIN MUNOZ

General Manager
PaperTech

PANEL DISCUSSION: WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

- Leadership lessons and strategies for building resilience and confidence throughout your career
- Overcoming career obstacles, including the unique challenges women face in leadership positions
- Mentoring the next generation of professionals and fostering a culture of advocacy and support
- Practical advice on driving personal growth and making impactful leadership decisions
- Realizing the power of advocacy and building strong networks for career advancement

8:00 am – 8:10 am CST

CHAIR'S WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION

LAND O' LAKES, INC.

MARK SHORT

VP Business Transformation and Regional
General Manager
Land O'Lakes

QUALITY & SAFETY



CATHERINE DAVIDSON

VP, Supply Chain, Food Safety and Quality
PepsiCo

INNOVATION



TAKASHI NAKAMURA, PH.D

VP, Corporate R&D and Food Safety
Fresh Del Monte

SUPPLY CHAIN



KRISTEN DAIHES

VP, Global Supply Chain
Mars Snacking

8:10 am – 8:40 am CST

OPENING KEYNOTE



KIMBERLI CARROLL

President and CEO
Ruiz Foods

OPTIMIZING OPERATIONS TO DELIVER EFFICIENCY, QUALITY, AND PROFITABILITY

- Innovating frozen food products to meet evolving consumer preferences
- Executing transformative strategies that fuel brand growth and market leadership
- Aligning sales and marketing efforts to drive customer engagement and loyalty
- Developing high-performing teams to adapt and thrive in competitive markets
- Leading with vision to shape the future of the frozen food industry

8:40 am – 9:10 am CST

PLENARY



NATALIA ORTEGA
Director, Operations
Sazón GOYA



MIKAEL BENGTTSSON
Director, Industry and Solution Strategy, Food and Beverage
Infor

CLOSING THE VALUE GAP WITH TECHNOLOGY IN FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANUFACTURING

- Exploring the gap between technology's promises and its actual impact in food and beverage digital transformation.
- Learning from a survey of 500 F&B executives on how to close the value gap and achieve tangible results
- Discovering how prioritizing agility, fostering a data-driven culture, and maintaining customer focus can enhance technology performance
- Understanding how leading organizations are implementing these strategies to extract greater value from digital transformation

9:15 am – 9:45 am CST

WORKSHOPS

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION

MITIGATING RISK AND MAXIMIZING EFFICIENCY THROUGH SMARTER WASTE AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

- Handling high-risk materials while complying with regulations and reducing liability
- Implementing sustainable wastewater treatment solutions to reduce environmental impact and enhance efficiency\
- Discovering reliable industrial and field waste management solutions to protect facilities and communities
- Case study: Wastewater treatment and cost reduction at Re-World Waste

QUALITY AND SAFETY



SPEAKER TBA

Coupa

REVOLUTIONIZING SPEND MANAGEMENT WITH AGENTIC AI: DRIVING EFFICIENCY, RESILIENCE, AND INNOVATION ACROSS THE SUPPLY CHAIN

- Harnessing AI-native platforms to optimize direct and indirect spend while reducing operational risk
- Leveraging intelligent spend management to improve supplier collaboration, forecasting accuracy, and cost control
- Empowering procurement and finance teams with real-time insights for smarter, faster decision-making
- Case study: Streamlining procurement and accelerating cost savings

INNOVATION



ERIC WHITLEY
Director of Smart Manufacturing
L2L

FROM DOWNTIME CRISIS TO CONTROL: HOW THE BEST F&B LEADERS REDUCE +\$50M IN ANNUAL DOWNTIME LOSSES

- Saving over \$3.5 million annually by reducing just two hours of downtime each month
- Reducing the time from problem identification to resolution to shift from reactive to proactive
- Addressing downtime caused by human error, quality issues, safety concerns, and inefficiencies
- Empowering frontline teams with connected tools for faster, smarter decision-making
- Showcasing success stories from Heineken, Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, and West Liberty Foods

SUPPLY CHAIN



SPEAKER TBA

SupplyPike

UNLOCKING SUPPLY CHAIN VISIBILITY AND PROFIT RECOVERY THROUGH AUTOMATION

- Eliminating retailer deductions and chargebacks with real-time analytics and automated dispute resolution
- Gaining full visibility into retail supply chain performance to reduce revenue leakage and improve cash flow
- Empowering CPG suppliers to proactively identify compliance issues and protect margins
- Case study: Leveraging SupplyPike to streamline compliance and recover lost revenue for a fast-growing snack food company expanding into big-box retail

9:50 am – 11:10 am CST

REFRESHMENTS, NETWORKING, AND PRE-ARRANGED 1-2-1 MEETINGS

11:15 am – 11:45 am CST

STREAM SESSIONS

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION



BECKY CRANE

VP, Manufacturing and Engineering
General Mills

ACCELERATING DIGITAL MANUFACTURING: ENHANCING CONNECTIVITY AND AGILITY IN A GLOBAL PRODUCTION NETWORK

- Establishing scalable digital frameworks to increase operational connectivity and speed across global sites
- Deploying AI-powered tools to streamline processes, reduce costs, and drive innovation
- Enhancing market responsiveness through adaptive, data-driven digital manufacturing strategies

QUALITY & SAFETY



TOLA ALADE-LAMBO

VP, Food Safety and Quality
McCain Foods

CREATING SCALABLE MANUFACTURING SUCCESS BY STANDARDIZING PROCESSES AND ENSURING QUALITY

- Standardizing food safety protocols across sites for global consistency and audit readiness
- Streamlining compliance with evolving FSMA and international regulatory requirements
- Improving cross-functional alignment between quality, operations, and plant leadership
- Using root cause analysis to address recurring quality and safety incidents
- Implementing risk-based frameworks to prioritize and mitigate potential safety issues
- Strengthening supplier quality programs to ensure safe inputs and reduce downstream risks

INNOVATION



SUZANNE FRANCISCO

VP, Supply Chain
American Foods Group

TRANSFORMING SUPPLY CHAINS: ENHANCING RESILIENCE, OPTIMIZING COSTS, ENSURING EFFICIENCY

- Strengthening supplier partnerships to drive agility and mitigate disruptions
- Optimizing logistics strategies for faster delivery and reduced transportation costs
- Building sustainable supply chain practices to meet regulatory and consumer demands
- Aligning cross-functional teams to streamline processes and reduce inefficiencies

SUPPLY CHAIN



KRISTEN DAIHES

VP, Global Supply Chain
Mars Snacking

NAVIGATING A DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN SUPPLY CHAIN AT MARS

- Leveraging a holistic change framework to deliver sustainable impact
- Examples of pragmatic use cases such as digital twins in manufacturing and agentic AI in Mars Snacking
- Key learnings and enabling capabilities foundational to crack scaling

11:50 am – 12:20 pm CST

WORKSHOPS

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION



SPEAKER TBA

Inecta

DRIVING OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN FOOD MANUFACTURING WITH CLOUD ERP BUILT FOR THE INDUSTRY

- Centralizing business functions with ERP designed specifically for food producers and distributors
- Enhancing traceability, quality control, and compliance across the supply chain with real-time data
- Automating inventory, production, and logistics to improve efficiency and reduce costly errors
- Gaining end-to-end visibility into operations to support agile decision-making and growth
- Empowering teams with intuitive tools that simplify complex food manufacturing processes

QUALITY AND SAFETY



PAUL BRADLEY

Senior Director, Product Marketing
TraceGain

CONNECTING, STREAMLINING, AND OPTIMIZING FOOD MANUFACTURING

- Uniting suppliers and manufacturers with a collaborative digital network
- Automating documentation to meet food safety and regulatory standards
- Accelerating innovation with integrated specification and formulation tools
- Centralizing data to ensure quality and transparency across partners
- Providing actionable insights to minimize risk and maximize efficiency

INNOVATION



ETHAN WALDIE

CEO and Co-Founder
Ferry

DEPLOYING TRUSTED AI IN MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS

- Explore how manufacturers can roll out guardrailed AI agents that boost operational performance and consistency
- Learn how to lay the right data foundation for trusted AI deployment that prioritises accuracy, reliability, and scale
- Understand the importance of human-in-the-loop systems in driving AI adoption across your frontline
- Hear how Ferry customers are embedding intelligence seamlessly into planning, quality, and production workflows

SUPPLY CHAIN



SPEAKER TBA

L.E.K Consulting

STRATEGIC GROWTH AND OPERATIONAL AGILITY: BUILDING A FUTURE-READY MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISE

- Identifying high-impact opportunities for growth through data-driven market and competitive analysis
- Aligning operational strategy with shifting customer demands, innovation, and digital transformation
- Optimizing manufacturing networks, capital investments, and supply chain resilience
- Accelerating decision-making with actionable insights and industry-specific benchmarking
- Driving long-term value by balancing cost efficiency, agility, and sustainability in operations

12:25 pm – 12:55 pm CST

SESSIONS

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION

**HANS BERGHORST**VP, Assets and Technology
Dairy Farmers of America

LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY TO ENHANCE ASSET PERFORMANCE AND STREAMLINE MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS

- How DFA's technology investments are transforming asset management and operational resilience
- Integrating IoT and data analytics to optimize quality, safety, and supply chain responsiveness
- Developing a technology-forward approach to meet evolving regulatory standards and sustainability goals
- Implementing predictive maintenance to reduce downtime and extend asset lifespan in dairy processing

QUALITY & SAFETY

**VIJAY KRISHNA**Global VP, Quality and Regulatory Affairs
Glanbia Performance Nutrition

DEVELOPING AGILE QUALITY AND REGULATORY STRATEGIES TO MEET GLOBAL COMPLIANCE, ENSURE SAFETY, AND BUILD BRAND TRUST

- Adapting quality and regulatory programs to shifting global standards and market requirements
- Building a proactive compliance culture that minimizes risk and accelerates innovation
- Integrating digital tools to enhance traceability, transparency, and regulatory reporting
- Fostering cross-functional collaboration between quality, operations, and R&D teams
- Balancing speed-to-market with strict quality and regulatory expectations
- Strengthening consumer trust through transparent labeling, claims management, and product integrity

INNOVATION

**PHILLIP DANA**VP, Transformation and Digitization
AC Foods

TRANSFORMING FOOD MANUFACTURING: DRIVING DIGITIZATION, INNOVATING PROCESSES, ENHANCING EFFICIENCY

- Leveraging IoT, AI, and robotics to optimize operations
- Reducing waste and improving quality with data-driven insights
- Utilizing blockchain to track supply chains with precision
- Adapting quickly to market shifts through smart technology
- Training employees to embrace digital transformation effectively
- Implementing eco-friendly digital solutions for a greener footprint

SUPPLY CHAIN

**BERNAL MEDEROS NIKOLAEV**Senior Director, Manufacturing and Supply Chain
Capability Enablement
Cargill

ENHANCING PROCESS EFFICIENCY: BUILDING ADAPTIVE CAPABILITIES IN OPERATIONS

- Developing adaptive processes to meet evolving market demands and operational challenges
- Implementing capability enablement strategies to streamline manufacturing workflows
- Leveraging data analytics for informed decision-making and process improvements
- Fostering a culture of continuous improvement and innovation within manufacturing teams
- Aligning cross-functional teams to drive cohesive operational strategies
- Building scalable systems to support long-term growth and adaptability

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm CST

LUNCH & LEARN ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS AND OPEN SEATING LUNCH

Benefit from additional learning by joining a moderated roundtable discussion on pressing issues in the industry. Registration is required, and attendance for moderated roundtables on Day 1 is limited to attendees and speakers. Choose from:



AKEYSHA HEADLEY

Director, Food Safety Quality Operations - North America
McCain Foods

OPTIMIZING QMS IMPLEMENTATION: ENHANCING TRACEABILITY AND PRODUCT RELIABILITY



ELIZABETH PALMER

Senior Director, Quality, Americas
Barry Callebaut Group

PRESERVING EXCELLENCE: ELEVATING FOOD SAFETY FOR INDUSTRY INTEGRITY AND CONSUMER HEALTH



JIHAN MILLER, PH.D.

VP, Research and Development
Egglife Foods

ENHANCING OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY FROM DAY ONE: STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR NEW PRODUCTION LINES



CARLOS MORENO

VP, Customer Order Fulfillment
8th Avenue Food & Provisions

STRATEGIES FOR OPTIMIZING NETWORK DISTRIBUTION CENTRES



PHILLIP DANA

VP, Transformation and Digitization
AC Foods

TRANSFORMING FOOD MANUFACTURING: DRIVING DIGITIZATION, INNOVATING PROCESSES, ENHANCING EFFICIENCY



WESTROCK COFFEE

SINDHU PILLAI

VP, Quality Assurance & Food Safety Compliance
Westrock Coffee

NAVIGATING GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN DISRUPTIONS: ADDRESSING REGULATORY AND COMMODITY CHALLENGES IN FOOD MANUFACTURING



MD RAKIBUL HASAN

Head, Performance Excellence, Global Supply Chain & Operations
Ocean Spray

LEVERAGING DATA ANALYTICS TO MONITOR PERFORMANCE AND DRIVE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT ACROSS OPERATIONS



TREASURY WINE ESTATES

EMILY ERNST

Director, Warehouse and Logistics
Treasury Wine Estates

SUPPLY CHAIN OPTIMIZATION: CUTTING COSTS AND BOOSTING OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN UNKNOWN MARKETS



EMILIE AMUNDSON

Senior Director Supply Chain
SunOpta

DRIVING AGILITY WITH CONTRACT MANUFACTURING: MEETING DYNAMIC MARKET DEMANDS



MICHELE BONEY

Director, Sustainability
West Liberty Foods

ACHIEVING ZERO-WASTE TO LANDFILL: OUR JOURNEY AND ITS IMPACT ON MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS



NATHALIE NUNEZ

VP and Chief of Staff, NA Supply Chain
Mondelēz International

DRIVING SUPPLY CHAIN TURNAROUND: PEOPLE-CENTERED TRANSFORMATION FOR SAFETY, EFFICIENCY, AND OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE



JEFF MILLER

VP, Engineering
Aspire Bakeries

ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE IN FOOD MANUFACTURING: SCALING INNOVATION, AUTOMATION, AND PLANT PERFORMANCE ACROSS OPERATIONS

2:05 pm – 2:35 pm CST

PLENARY



LEO KEPPLER BORBA

Director, Account Management and Applications
Traction

SCALING OPERATIONAL RESILIENCE IN THE FOOD SECTOR WITH DIGITAL MAINTENANCE

- Learn how real-time monitoring reduces downtime and protects perishable and non perishable production
- Discover how a digital CMMS simplifies audits and regulatory compliance
- See how predictive maintenance improves equipment life and lowers failure risk
- Understand how to standardize maintenance across multi-site operations
- Gain insight into building a scalable, resilient maintenance strategy with tech

2:35 pm – 3:05 pm CST

FIRESIDE CHAT



JOHN ADLER
SVP, Physical Product
Wonder Group



MARY ELLEN KUHN
Executive Editor, Food Technology
Institute of Food Technologists (IFT)

FIRESIDE CHAT: HOW BLUE APRON UNITES INNOVATION AND EFFICIENCY FOR A BETTER CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

- Examining customer needs and how it impacts manufacturing and operations
- The role of the supply chain in unlocking customer needs through every part of the experience
- Strategies for innovating every part of the manufacturing process to meet new customer expectations
- Insights on sourcing and leveraging existing relationships and products to build resiliency and expand creatively
- Insights on evolving meal solutions to keep pace with changing consumer trends and demands for quality and safety

3:05 pm – 3:50 pm CST

PANEL DISCUSSION

GREG HOCKING
VP, Global R&D New Innovation Territories
Mars



ANDREW STILL
VP, Beverage Operations
Niagara Bottling

MARK SHORT
VP Business Transformation and Regional General Manager
Land O'Lakes



ROGER BRECHT
Chief Operations Officer
Richelieu Foods



SPEAKER TBA
FacilityOS

ENHANCING CROSS-FUNCTIONAL COLLABORATION ACROSS R&D, SUPPLY CHAIN, AND MANUFACTURING

- From innovation to implementation - bridging product development and manufacturing for market success
- Enhancing cross-functional collaboration across R&D, supply chain, and manufacturing
- Accelerating speed-to-market without compromising quality and safety standards
- Using AI and data analytics to forecast trends and guide product development
- Case studies on scaling from prototype to production

3:50 pm – 4:00 pm CST

CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS AND SURVEY PRIZE GIVEAWAY

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION

MARK SHORT
VP Business Transformation and Regional
General Manager
Land O'Lakes

QUALITY & SAFETY



CATHERINE DAVIDSON
VP, Supply Chain, Food Safety and Quality
PepsiCo

INNOVATION



TAKASHI NAKAMURA, PH.D
VP, Corporate R&D and Food Safety
Fresh Del Monte

SUPPLY CHAIN

KRISTEN DAIHES
VP, Global Supply Chain
Mars Snacking