



FOOD DEFENSE AND TERRORISM OR INTENTIONAL TAMPERING

ALERT: The Basics



ALERT is a federal initiative intended to raise the awareness of government and business regarding food defense issue. It is basic enough to apply to all aspects of the farm-to-table supply chain and is designed to spark thought, discussion, and planning. ALERT identifies five key points that businesses can use to lower the risk of intentional food contamination at their facility.

In today's world it is important to be ALERT to protect your business.

A How do you **ASSURE** that the supplies and ingredients you use are from safe and secure sources?

- Know your suppliers
- Encourage you suppliers to be ALERT

L How do you **LOOK** after the security of the products and ingredients in your facility?

- Limit access
- Randomly inspect facilities

E How do you know about your **EMPLOYEES** and people coming in and out of your facility?

- Conduct background checks on employees
- Prevent customer access to critical areas

R Could you provide **REPORTS** about the security of your products while under your control?

- Periodically evaluate the effectiveness of your security management system
- Establish and maintain records of suppliers

T What do you do and who do you notify if you have a **THREAT** or security issue at your facility, including suspicious behavior?

- Call local law enforcement
- Call the Health Department at (520) 866-6807

For more information, please go to website www.cfsan.fda.gov/alert.

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