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The Future of the Food Industry: Regulation, Sustainability and Growth

May 13, 2021
8:30 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.
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Global Midwest Alliance invites you to its first program in the Alliance's 2021 Innovation, Growth and Globalization Industry-Focused Series. Past food industry programs have focused on a number of topics, including food safety, policy changes, global food production and sustainability, food supply chain management, packaging innovations, reducing food waste, and the impact of food, nutrition and technology on our health and wellbeing.

With a possible end in sight for the global pandemic, the future for the food sector looks promising; however, like many other industries, the food sector faces numerous challenges going forward, as international safety standards change and global regulators shift priorities. Moreover, a sustainable worldwide food supply has taken on a higher priority under the shadow of the pandemic. With the emergence and growth of ESG (environmental, social and governance) investing, sustainability has become more vital than ever before to succeed in the food industry of the future.

Companies in the food sector need assistance in charting a course to meet regulatory and sustainability goals, especially as these issues intertwine with shifting governmental and industry standards. As regulations get updated and consumers' preferences shift, there are impacts on the profitability of companies, as well as their levels of employment and sales growth. Furthermore, these issues intersect with public debates about food safety, people's health, boosting immunities, ingredient traceability and global trade.

The food industry is an important part of the Midwest's economy, especially as a generator of new markets and employment. Opportunities in world trade require nimble and informed responses to changing policies and consumer preferences across the globe. In addition, technological changes and innovations provide new opportunities to grow food sales, but also mandate updating procedures to keep pace with a rapidly evolving sector.

Global Midwest Alliance will delve into these themes in an informative program hosted by Decernis, Kerry, the Institute for Food Safety and Health, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. The program will feature a distinguished keynote speaker along with expert panelists in the programs Innovation and Growth and Global panel discussions.

Join Global Midwest Alliance and leaders from industry, government, and other organizations as we explore some of the intersecting issues that will determine the future of the food industry and that of food producers.

The cost to attend this industry program is \$75 per person, payable at the time of registration.

AGENDA

SESSION 1:

8:30 a.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

[David Oppedahl](#), Senior Business Economist, The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

8:35 a.m.

Keynote: A Fireside Chat

Moderator: [Robert Brackett](#), IIT Vice President and Director, Institute for Food Safety and Health

Keynote Speaker: Kenneth Petersen, Senior Vice President, Quality Assurance, Food Safety and Regulatory Affairs, OSI Group LLC

9:05 a.m.

20-Minute Break

SESSION 2:

9:25 a.m.

Innovation and Technology Panel

Moderator: [Dave Donnan](#), President, Silvertip Management

Panelists:

[Michael Kaplan](#), Managing Partner, Spiral Sun Ventures

[Anthony Kingsley](#), Director of Sustainability and ESG Impact, Benson Hill

[Julie Martin](#), Finance Director, Grow Forward

10:25 a.m.

20-Minute Break

SESSION 3:

10:45 a.m.

Growth and Global Opportunities Panel

Moderator: [Dr. Ruud Overbeek](#), Sr. Vice-President, Corporate Development &

Strategic Relationships, FoodChain ID

Panelists:

[Juan Aguiriano](#), Group Head, Sustainability and Technology Ventures, Kerry

[Roger Lawrence](#), McCormick & Company, Inc. (Retired)

11:45 a.m.

Questions and Closing Remarks

[Susan Bond](#), Vice President Regulatory & Scientific Affairs, Kerry

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Decernis, a FoodChain ID company, provides a complete regulatory intelligence information suite with unsurpassed coverage of over 100,000 global regulations in 218 countries and 26 international communities, including focus on innovation, technology, and global expansion for the food industry in the Midwest. The Decernis product line includes Horizon Scanning, Supply Chain Management, Reference Databases and Regulatory Enterprise systems for food additives, consumer products, food packaging, contaminants, product safety, food fraud and food safety, and more.

Established in 2011, the **Institute for Food Safety and Health** (IFSH) at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) is a world-class food science research institute that produces knowledge-based outcomes in the areas of food safety, food defense and nutrition for stakeholders in government, industry and academia.

Kerry is dedicated to making the world of food and beverage better for everyone. Every day, millions of people throughout the world consume foods and beverages containing Kerry's taste and nutrition solutions. The focus on changing lifestyles, the globalisation of food tastes and ever-evolving consumer needs has brought us to a market-leading global position. Today, we are firmly established as a world leader in the food, beverage and pharma industries, with 23,000 staff and 100+ innovation and manufacturing centres across six continents.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago is one of 12 regional Reserve Banks that, along with the Board of Governors in Washington, D.C., make up the nation's central bank. The Chicago Fed serves the Seventh Federal Reserve District, which encompasses the northern portions of Illinois and Indiana, southern Wisconsin, the Lower Peninsula of Michigan, and the state of Iowa. In addition to participation in the formulation of monetary policy, each Reserve Bank supervises member banks and bank holding companies, provides financial services to depository institutions and the U.S. government, and monitors economic conditions in its District.

Global Midwest Alliance is a business-led, region-wide not-for-profit educational organization dedicated to transforming the Midwest into an internationally recognized leader in innovation and business growth. The Alliance aligns and integrates resources throughout the Midwest helping businesses to grow by leveraging existing resources to develop new products and find customers throughout the world. The Alliance is the Private Sector Liaison Office for the World Bank and a member of Global CONNECT. Through these and other affiliations, the Alliance facilitates access to global business opportunities for Midwest business through 155 groups in 98 countries around the world. The Alliance offers educational and networking opportunities through a variety of programs and resources designed to promote innovation, technology development and access to global opportunities in the clean technology, energy, food, logistics, manufacturing and water industries.