

New Jersey Food Processors Association

NJFPA NEWS

May 2009

• New Jersey Food Processors Association: The Voice of New Jersey's Food Processing Industry •

*Welcome to the first issue of the New Jersey Food Processors Association **NJFPA NEWS**. **NJFPA NEWS** is a quarterly electronic newsletter for association members and friends that highlights the latest news from the New Jersey Food Processors Association and its member companies.*

Upcoming NJFPA Events

2009 NJFPA Annual Golf Outing, June 11, 2009

This year's Annual Summer Outing will be held at the Buena Vista Country Club in Buena, NJ on June 11th. Lunch will be provided prior to tee-off and other refreshments will be available during the day. At the conclusion of the game a brief reception and a buffet dinner will be provided, and the awarding of great prizes will be held. For more details about this event, and to register, please see our website:

<http://www.njfoodprocessors.org/2009%20GOLF%20OUTING%20INVITATION.pdf>

If you haven't registered already, please do so as soon as possible to guarantee your space!

NJFPA Networking Dinner, September 16, 2009

Our next Networking Dinner will be held on Wednesday, September 16th at the Running Deer Golf Club beginning at 6:30pm. More information about this will be forthcoming, but please save the date for another exciting program, and a great networking opportunity for our members!

Educational Events of Interest to Our Members

New Hands-On Food Safety Training Classes available

The Rutgers Food Innovation Center has just introduced a series of "Hands-on Food Safety Training" classes. These classes are essential for anyone presently working in, or interested in working in, the food processing industry. The series consists of six, full-day classes offered over a period of two weeks, and will consist of day-long modules in "Good Manufacturing Practices", "Microbiology & Sanitation", "Allergen Control & Cross-Contamination", "Bioterrorism & Food Security", "Application of HACCP", and "Documentation, Paperwork & Audits". For incumbent workers, classes are just \$225/day or \$1,100 for attendance at all six classes. For unemployed community residents in Cumberland County, these classes may be offered for free, if deemed eligible by the Cumberland County Workforce Investment Board. Classes will be offered in June, July, August, and September. For more information, please see

<http://www.njfoodprocessors.org/Hot%20Classes.pdf> or contact Dianne Carbonetta at Carbonetta@njaes.rutgers.edu

Food Safety Forum, May 29, 2009

Gloucester County College will be hosting their annual food conference for business and colleges on May 29, 2009 at Rowan University, located in Glassboro, NJ. This year their focus will be on the timely topic of Food Safety. Dr. Robert Buchanan, Director of the Center for Food Safety and Security Systems at the University of Maryland and formerly with the USDA, will provide the keynote presentation addressing issues relating to food safety and security. In addition, a panel of individuals from various sectors of the food production industry will be on hand to discuss safety concerns related to their particular sectors.

Attendance is free, but pre-registration is required. The registration information can be found on the NJFPA website at:

<http://www.njfoodprocessors.org/Food%20Safety%20Forum%20Registration%20052909.pdf>

Free Webinar on Increasing Productivity and Decreasing Unit Cost, June 9, 2009

Hixton, one of the leading design and engineering firms in North America, is offering a free webinar on the topic of how new or retrofitted food processing plants can be designed to optimize productivity and decrease unit cost. The webinar will be held on June 9th, at 2:00pm and is intended for Senior Management and Operations/Engineering food and beverage plant personnel. More information and an online registration form is available on the NJFPA website:

<https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=137125&sessionid=1&key=07425CD5FCE91B7D858CE1DE62680931&partnerref=email1DF&sourcepage=register>

Association Updates

NJFPA Welcomes 3 New Members!

The NJFPA would like to extend a warm welcome to its new members! At the next network event be sure to welcome Robert Schmidt of the NIA Group, Skip McNeal of Rock Tenn, and Matt Montgomery of Advanced Equipment.

NJFPA Networking Dinner Recap

The last NJFPA Networking Dinner was held on March 12th, at Lucia's in Vineland, which was the largest networking dinner we've had to date! New Jersey Department of Agriculture Secretary Douglas Fisher delivered opening remarks regarding his perspectives on the changes he sees for our industry, and he was warmly received by our members. Following Secretary Fisher's remarks, Jim Crawford, President of Business Growth Solutions, LLC, gave an outstanding presentation on "Building Bridges to Customer and Barriers to Competitors." Photos from this event can be found on our website: <http://www.njfoodprocessors.org/DinneratLucias.html>

NJFPA Launches Electronic Newsletter

In addition to the *NJFPA Reporter*, the association will now be distributing this quarterly e-newsletter: *NJFPA NEWS*. This e-newsletter will briefly update both members and friends of the NJFPA on the latest developments to the association, upcoming events and also keep readers up to date on their fellow member-companies' accomplishments. *NJFPA NEWS* aims to serve as just another way of keeping you informed and in touch.

NJFPA Overhauls Website and Simplifies Dues Payment Process

As part of the NJFPA's strategic partnership with the Rutgers Food Innovation Center, the Center has given the Association's website a complete overhaul. You'll notice an overall change to the look of the site and a more user friendly organization of content. Another exciting change is the ability to pay dues and some event fees safely and securely online, though PayPal! While on the site, feel free to submit your comments about how the NJFPA has helped to further your business for inclusion in our Testimonials section. Stop by and check out the new site (parts of which are still in the development stages) and please give us your feedback on how we can best customize it to meet the needs of our members: <http://www.njfoodprocessors.org/>

NJFPA Introduces Free Member Listserv

The NJFPA now offers a free service in which members can email all subscribers of this listserv questions pertinent to their business. This may include questions about ingredient sources, technology, equipment, food safety, environmental and other policy questions, etc. In addition, this listserv can be used by member companies interested in buying and selling equipment, identifying service providers, hiring personnel, and other issues relevant to the growth of their businesses. PLEASE - NO ADVERTISING IS PERMITTED. If you wish to join the listserv, you can do so on our website: https://email.rutgers.edu/mailman/listinfo/njfpa_members

New Mailing Address

The New Jersey Food Processors Association now has a new mailing address. All items should be mailed to the following address, unless otherwise noted:

NJFPA
450 East Broad Street
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Please Send us Updates on Your Company!

Member Information to be Posted on NJFPA Website

As part of the NJFPA's initiative to expand its services to members, the Association will be publicizing press releases about member companies on its website. If you have a recent press release on your company, or were mentioned in a recent article, we invite you to submit the article to be included in this program. Articles can be sent to Dianne Carbonetta (Carbonetta@njaes.rutgers.edu) at the Rutgers Food Innovation Center for inclusion.

Help Us Update Our Database

We are continually working to update the NJFPA database and insure that our members can benefit from various member communications, such as this e-newsletter and event notifications, is able to. If there is anyone at your company you feel should be receiving these communications, please send their name, title and email address to Dianne Carbonetta at the Rutgers Food Innovation Center: Carbonetta@njaes.rutgers.edu. We appreciate you doing your part to ensure that everyone can benefit from these new resources.