



March 18, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: JULIE ANNA POTTS
FROM: RSA, ANNE HALAL AND ERIC ZITO
SUBJECT: ESSENTIAL SUPPLIER MEAT AND POULTRY SECTOR
SUPPORT INDUSTRIES

Provided below is a compilation of support industries that are critical to the operation of meat and poultry packing and processing establishments. In several ways the meat and poultry industry is unlike any other sector of the food industry. In others, it does not differ from companies that produce bread or fruits and vegetables.

Unlike food production facilities subject to the jurisdiction of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), federally inspected meat and poultry processors are subject to daily inspection conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) employees. Unlike FDA regulated plants, FSIS must be in meat and poultry plants daily and for slaughter facilities their presence must be constant. That is why FSIS inspectors have always been deemed essential.

To operate a livestock slaughter facility or a further processing facility takes more, however, than just the packer/processors employees. It takes: a transportation system that can deliver livestock to the slaughter facility; the necessary equipment and support to keep it running; the necessary chemicals to implement pathogen intervention programs; third party technical engineering experts to maintain or repair equipment; cleaning crews to sanitize a packing or processing facility during third shift to prepare the facility for next day's production; and a lot more. A detailed list follows.

Live Animal Side

- Livestock into slaughter plants
- Bedding
- Feed if animals held >24 hours
- Pharma supplies
- CO2 stunning capability
- Remote video auditing

Sanitation

- Third party sanitation crew
- Sanitation chemicals
- Other sanitation supplies (e.g., gloves, masks, aprons)
- Chemical inspection services/ chemical management ensuring proper concentration throughout plant from one main source.

Facility Operations and Maintenance

- Regulators: Food Safety and Inspection Service and Agricultural Marketing Service - Processed Verified Programs, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
- Labor
- Labor transportation (bussing services)
- Ammonia/CO2/ Nitrogen suppliers (refrigeration) and contractors
- Plumbers/ waste water/ drains
- Pest control service providers
- Personal Protective Equipment: Soap, Sanitizer, Face Mask, paper towels, aprons
- Waste pick up services: Trash, Inedible, Rendering
- Equipment service technicians (e.g., conveyors, dumpers, metal detectors, etc. – not every day but if equipment breaks the plant is down until repaired)
- 3rd party IT support companies and services to help keep company running digitally
- Calibration companies- scales, metal detector, x ray
- Security guards

Transportation

- Trucks and drivers to deliver livestock or meat
 - a. Adequate access for truck drivers to rest stops or areas to fill up and obtain food
 - b. Access for trucks to and from necessary locations to supply goods described above

Production

- Packaging material suppliers (e.g., meat from carcass needs to be packaged properly for transport)
- Ingredient suppliers (spices, vegetables, etc.)
- Laundry services (*i.e.*, clean smocks are needed daily or more often and may outsourced)
- Laboratories (many companies outsource microbiological testing activity, *E. coli*, *Listeria*, *etc.*, and if done in house supplies are needed.)
- Labeling supplies
- Paper - documentation requirements HACCP food safety

Sales

- Bio diesel plants to operate
- Ports open for export
- Transload station open at ports
- Container services
- Transportation-Open interstate travel
 - Truck
 - Rail service

Corporate

- Telecommunications
- Banking services for payments and collections

Please let us know if you have questions.