



GLOBAL  
FOOD PROTECTION  
INSTITUTE



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**CONFERENCE TO FOCUS ON ALLERGEN MANAGEMENT IN FOOD SUPPLY**

*Event set for September 24 in Fairfax, Va.*

**BATTLE CREEK, Mich., September 18, 2012** – A conference aimed at making the food supply safe for people with food allergies is set for September 24 in Fairfax, Va. The program will feature speakers from academia and from regulatory, industry and public advocacy groups involved in allergen management.

[Imagined Food Futures®](#), an initiative of the [Global Food Protection Institute](#), and The Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN™) are offering the conference, titled “**Preventive Controls and Allergen Management in the Manufacturing Environment**,” at the Hyatt Fairfax Hotel.

Participants can expect to hear engaging speaker presentations on preventive controls, allergen management and labeling. Participants also will have the opportunity to discuss threshold levels of allergens, the many factors that affect allergen management and ways to make progress on the issue.

“The Global Food Protection Institute’s collaboration with FAAN reflects our shared commitment to making the food supply safe for people with food allergies,” said Dr. Julia Bradsher, President and CEO of GFPI. “Allergen management in manufacturing is critical for the estimated 15 million people with food allergies.”

“Food allergy is a severe and potentially life-threatening medical condition that has reached epidemic levels in the United States and throughout the world,” said John Lehr, CEO of FAAN. “We are pleased to partner with GFPI in our continuing efforts to educate and make this world safer for families affected by food allergies. As always, we are looking forward to working together with food industry leaders and researchers on the important issue of allergen safety in the food manufacturing industry.”

The conference is open to the public. For more information or to register for the conference, please visit [www.imaginedfoodfutures.org](http://www.imaginedfoodfutures.org).

**Program Speakers:**

Julia E. Bradsher — President and CEO of the Global Food Protection Institute.

John Lehr — CEO of the Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN™).

Steve L. Taylor — Professor in the University of Nebraska’s Department of Food Science & Technology and Co-Director of the Food Allergy Research & Resource Program.

Steven Gendel — U.S. Food and Drug Administration food allergen coordinator.

Maria Said — President, Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia.

Susan Estes — Senior Manager for Global Food Safety at PepsiCo.

Matthew J. Greenhawt—Assistant Professor in the Division of Allergy and Immunology at the University of Michigan and research director for the University of Michigan Food Allergy Center and co-director of the University of Michigan Combined Pediatric Eosinophilic Esophagitis Clinic.

Anthony Lupo — Director of Technical Service for Neogen Corporation.

Joseph Levitt, Hogan Lovells US LLP — Joseph Levitt is a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of Hogan Lovells and the former director of the FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition.

Shannon Cole — Senior Director of Science Program Management at the Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA), in Washington, D.C.

George Dunaif — Vice President for Food Safety and Technical Services at the Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA).

### **About The Institute**

The Global Food Protection Institute is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization driving the adoption of food-protection policies and practices for a safer global food supply. The Institute's mission is to improve public health and reduce mortality, morbidity and economic costs associated with foodborne illnesses through three core initiatives:

- Imagined Food Futures® is facilitating the adoption of policies and practices that will lead to improved public health.
- The Emerging Technology Accelerator is advancing the development of novel food-protection technologies.
- The International Food Protection Training Institute is building the training infrastructure for the national integrated food safety system.

Start-up funding for the Institute has been generously provided by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. For more information, visit [www.gfpi.org](http://www.gfpi.org).

### **About FAAN**

Founded in 1991, FAAN is the world leader in information, resources and programs for food allergy, a potentially life-threatening medical condition that afflicts as many as 15 million Americans, including 5.9 million children. A nonprofit organization based in Fairfax, Va., FAAN is dedicated to increasing public awareness of food allergy and its consequences, to educating people about the condition, and to advancing research on behalf of all those affected by it. FAAN provides information and educational resources about food allergy to patients, their families, schools, health professionals, pharmaceutical companies, the food industry and government officials. On May 9, 2012, FAAN announced its intent to merge with the Food Allergy Initiative, the other leading food allergy organization in the United States, pending state regulatory approval. To become a member or for more information, please visit [www.foodallergy.org](http://www.foodallergy.org).

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