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Press Release

IFPTI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SPEAK AT NORTH CAROLINA FOOD SAFETY AND DEFENSE TASK FORCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Conference Examines the Role of Partnerships in Effective Food Protection

Durham, N.C., May 20, 2013 – Gerald Wojtala, executive director of the International Food Protection Training Institute (IFPTI), will speak at North Carolina Food Safety and Defense Task Force's Annual Conference titled 'Safe Food is Good Business: The Need for Partnerships – from Farm to Fork – in Effective Food Protection'.

The two-day conference, scheduled for May 22-23 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel, will focus on the crucial role partnerships across the food sector have in protecting the food supply.

Wojtala will speak at a workshop titled "Food Protection Training Partnerships – Assuring Competency and Comparability for Regulators and Industry". The session will cover the importance of well-trained food protection officials and how to create partnerships to ensure training consistency.

"At IFPTI, we work with individuals from across the food sector to provide career-spanning training and capacity building to food protection professionals," said Wojtala. "Effective collaboration between all food safety stakeholders is the best way to ensure the safety of the global food supply."

About the Training Institute

The Training Institute is an initiative of the [Global Food Protection Institute \(GFPI\)](#), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Battle Creek, Mich., that is driving the adoption of food protection policies and practices for a safer global food supply. GFPI's mission is to improve public health and reduce mortality, morbidity and economic costs associated with foodborne illnesses.

The Training Institute is building and administering the training infrastructure for the nation's Integrated Food Safety System. The Training Institute is dedicated to improving food safety by building training systems, providing evidence-based curriculum, and delivering training for U.S. and international public and private sector food safety professionals that span their entire careers.

Financial support for the Training Institute is provided through a cooperative agreement with the U.S Food and Drug Administration and through the generosity of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

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