

A Look Back at 2025 & Ahead to 2026

Today's Presenter:

Dr. David Acheson

January 30, 2026



FSMAFRIDAY

Monthly Industry News, Updates & Trends for Food, Beverage, & CPG Manufacturers



What is FSMA Fridays?

- ✓ Monthly FSMA Related News
- ✓ Regulation Changes & Updates
- ✓ Industry Trends
- ✓ Q&A with TAG



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A global food safety and public health consulting group made up of seasoned industry experts.

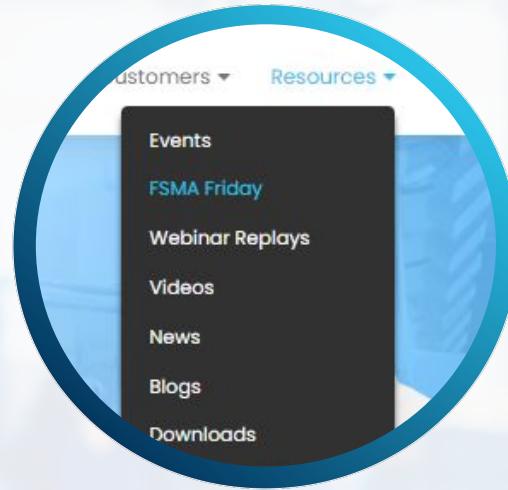


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Award-winning digital plant management platform to visualize plant-wide performance and better control quality, yield & production optimization.

Before We Get Started...

- ✓ Only panelist microphones are on
- ✓ Ask questions! (Q&A at end)
- ✓ Recording link will be shared
- ✓ Audio issues: use call-in number



Watch prior FSMA Friday recordings at
safetychain.com > Resources > FSMA Friday

Meet Your FSMA Friday Speakers

Dr. David Acheson

President & CEO, The Acheson Group (TAG)



Dr. David Acheson has more than 40 years of medical and food safety experience, having practiced medicine for several years and serving in prominent roles with both the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service prior to forming TAG in 2013. David graduated from the University of London Medical School and practiced internal medicine and infectious diseases in the UK until 1987 when he moved to the New England Medical Center and became an Associate Professor at Tufts University in Boston.

At the USDA, David served as the Chief Medical Officer of the Food Safety and Inspection Service. He then joined the FDA as the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) Chief Medical Officer; from which he moved to Director of CFSAN's Office of Food Defense, Communication and Emergency Response; and was then appointed as the Assistant and then Associate Commissioner for Foods. In this role, David held agency-wide leadership for all food issues, and developed the 2007 Food Protection Plan.

Since founding TAG, David has used his regulatory insight, knowledge, and expertise in crisis response to advise food industry clients on how to best manage risk in a global supply chain and evolving regulatory landscape. He has published extensively and is internationally recognized for both his public health expertise in food safety and his research in infectious diseases. He is a sought-after speaker and regular guest on national news programs; serves on a variety of boards and food safety advisory groups; and is a fellow of both the Royal College of Physicians (London) and the Infectious Disease Society of America.

A resident of Bigfork, Montana, David enjoys anything outdoors and travelling with his wife all over the world.

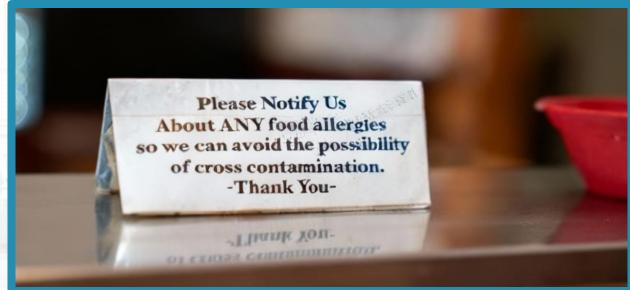


Recent Regulatory Updates Overview

New Dietary Guidelines

GAO Report Tasks FDA to Complete FSMA Requirements

Increased Listeria Regulations



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Questions? 



SAFETYCHAIN

Food & Beverage Manufacturing

Benchmark Survey & Report



safetychain.com/solutions/manufacturing-benchmark-report

FSMAFRIDAY

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Join us in February

 Friday
Feb 27

 9:00 AM PT
12:00 PM ET

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WEBINAR SERIES

FSMA'S LAB ACCREDITATION RULE:

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



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FEB 27

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DAN RICE
SENIOR ADVISOR, FOOD SAFETY
THE ACHESON GROUP



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WEBINAR SERIES

WORKING WITH FDA:

PRACTICAL INSIGHTS FROM A FORMER FDA OFFICIAL



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DON KAUTTER
SENIOR ADVISOR
THE ACHESON GROUP



More Resources

- Industry eGuides
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More On Boosting Food Safety

Operational Control When Guidance Moves Slower Than Risk

The Challenge

- Paper logs and spreadsheets slow response to quality and safety risks
- Critical data lives in silos — QA, Ops, and Maintenance lack shared visibility
- Regulatory guidance evolves faster than internal SOP updates
- Delayed record reviews increase audit and recall exposure
- Manual processes create inconsistent execution across shifts and sites

Digital Plant in Action

1. Digital Data Collection

*Photo evidence
Automatic task routing*

2. Live Reports and Data

*Real time results triggers
Data flows real time*

3. Automated Compliance

*Audit ready records
Full digital trail*