Cost of EMP Questionnaire

**We are collecting information on *Listeria* environmental monitoring programs (EMPs) to help your company and companies like yours to make better decisions as to how much money to invest into EMPs and corrective actions.**

To help us accomplish this, please answer the following 10 questions related to your *Listeria* EMP over the course of the 1-year you participated in the Cornell *Listeria* EMP Project.

**Please Note: Any results gathered from this survey that we share in presentations or papers will be blinded. This entails any information provided will remain confidential.**

Here is a list of definitions we may ask you to estimate:

* **Total Cost of Corrective Actions:**
  + This is corrective actions that occurred as a direct result from your EMP. Examples are resealing the floor because you found positives on the floor or implementing a stronger sanitizer into your SSOPs
  + Total cost means any cost that went into implementing the corrective action. This includes payment of your own employees, outside labor and contractors that performed the corrective action (e.g., resealed the floor), the cost of building material used for corrective action (e.g., cost of coating material used to reseal the floor), the cost of chemicals (e.g., cost of the new additional sanitizer), and any other costs (e.g., new equipment and tools you had to buy).
  + If your corrective action was to discard product, please include the retail value of that product and the cost of discarding it.
* **Total estimated value of finished product:**
  + This is the value of product that is finished in your facility. Include both packaged and unpackaged finished product. Value in this case means the price the product would retail for.
* **Total Cost of EMP related shut downs:** 
  + If you had to stop or delay production for more than 1 hour as a result of needing to implement an EMP corrective action, what was the total cost associated with that shut down. This includes the total cost of the corrective action (defined above) plus any employees you may have had to pay to have them stand by and await to restart production, and the value of product lost that could have been made during the shutdown. Additionally, if any product (finished or Work in Progress) had to be discarded, please include that cost as well.
* **Average estimated value of one day’s worth of production:** This is the estimated value of finished product (defined above) made in one day of production.

**Questions:**

Q1: You may have carried out some EMP related corrective actions during the 1-year you participated in the Cornell *Listeria* EMP project (e.g., tile replacement, floor/threshold sealing, enhancing frequency/duration of cleaning and sanitation activities in plant, retraining on sanitation SOPs).

Please estimate the ***total*** cost in dollars you spent on *all* corrective actions/interventions related to your *Listeria* EMP during the 1-year. **Total cost includes labor both from outside contractors and employees who worked on the corrective action, any building or cleaning materials, product you may have had to discard.**

**\***(feel free to reference definition above)\*

Answer: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q2: Within the last year, how many times, if any, did you have to unexpectedly stop processing for more than an hour specifically in order to perform corrective actions as a direct result of your EMP?

Please do not include any scheduled shutdowns for reasons other than resolving EMP issues (for example, a routine and pre-scheduled shutdown during Christmas season for maintenance would not be included even if EMP corrective actions occurred during this time).

**If you did not experience any shut down of production related to EMP, please skip to question 5.**

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Q3. On Average, how long do the shutdowns mentioned above last?

1. 1-24 hours
2. 2-4 days
3. 5-7 days
4. 1-2 weeks
5. 2 weeks+

**If answered “e”, how long did the average shut down last? \_\_\_\_\_**

Q4. On average, during those shutdowns you mentioned above, estimate the average total cost of each shut down. This estimation includes your total corrective action cost and total value lost from not being able to produce product. If you had to discard finished product as a result, please include the cost of that as well.

Answer: $\_\_\_\_\_

**To assess the benefits of EMPs, we need to look at how expensive a “*Listeria* issue” or a potential recall in your facility would be.**

Q5: What is the total estimated value of *finished product (both packaged and unpackaged)* that your facility has in storage at any point in time (for example, right now)?

Answer: $\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Don’t know
2. Cannot disclose this information

Q6: What is the average estimated value of product made in one day’s worth of production in your facility?

Answer: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Don’t know
2. Cannot disclose this information

Q7: After the 1-year EMP project with Milk Quality Improvement Program, what would be the estimation of how much control you felt you had over the pathogen presence in your processing environment?

1. No control/No signs of improvement
2. Little control/Small signs of improvement
3. Some control/Some signs of improvement
4. Mostly under control/Obvious improvement
5. Full control/No improvements needed

Q8:It has been ~1 year since the 1-year EMP project with Milk Quality Improvement Program has ended. What is your estimation of your current control over the pathogen presence in your processing environment?

1. No control/No signs of improvement
2. Little control/Small signs of improvement
3. Some control/Some signs of improvement
4. Mostly under control/Obvious improvement
5. Full control/No improvements needed

Q9: Do you believe that dairy processors can establish a successful EMP and control of pathogens in the processing environment without external consulting?

1. No, all need some consulting.
2. Most need consulting.
3. About half need consulting.
4. Most don’t need consulting.
5. None need consulting.

Q10: How helpful did you find support from Milk Quality Improvement Program/extension during the EMP project?

1. Not helpful at all
2. Moderately helpful
3. Helpful
4. Very helpful
5. Essential to success of our EMP

This concludes the interview. Thank you for your time and support of Milk Quality Improvement Program and Cornell Dairy Extension programs.