



COLLOQUE SECURITE ET QUALITE DES ALIMENTS 2007

« Contaminations microbiologiques des aliments : Incidence des surfaces, de l'air et de l'eau »

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SILLIKER
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An internationally recognized leader with expertise in food safety, laboratory management, and scientific and regulatory affairs in both private industry and government. Extensive experience leading large, multi-disciplinary teams in building world-class organizations, managing turnaround and crisis situations, and providing expert advice to the food industry.

EMPLOYMENT

Jan 2003 - Present **Vice President of Food Safety and Scientific Affairs**
Silliker, Inc., Homewood, IL

Provide expert consulting assistance to food manufacturers, restaurants, retailers, and distributors on the development, implementation, and maintenance of effective food safety programs, quality problems and programs, risk management programs, prevention strategies, crisis management plans, and biodefense programs. Provide crisis management services for food safety and regulatory emergencies. Directed Silliker's Research Laboratory in a return to profitability. Designed and managed contract research and process validation studies. Taught Silliker public short courses and wrote customized training programs. Marketed Silliker's services to key industry executives and developed new lines of business.

May 1999 - Dec 2002 **Corporate Vice President of Food Safety and Technology**
Sara Lee Corporation, Memphis, TN and Cincinnati, OH

Managed food safety activities for over 125 facilities worldwide that manufacture meat, poultry, bakery goods, coffee and tea. Developed first corporate food safety division. Defined scientific strategies for risk management, including development of pathogen control and product testing programs, construction and sanitation policies, crisis management and recall plans, and biodefense programs. Designed and implemented the best *Listeria* control program in the industry that reduced environmental levels of *Listeria* by more than 90%. Led recall activities. Identified and prioritized food safety research and adoption of new technologies for risk mitigation. Directed regulatory strategies for products and plants and new product development worldwide. Advised management on international scientific and regulatory issues affecting imports, exports, and new product development. Participated in marketing and sales through cooperative efforts with customers.

April 1992 - May 1999 **Director of Microbiology Division, Office of Public Health and Science**
USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, D.C.

Directed largest division in OPHS with about 100 staff, and an annual budget in excess of \$2 million. Responsible for planning, directing, coordinating scientific activities of three branches and four food safety and research laboratories, identifying new microbiological monitoring and surveillance programs, and prioritizing new areas of research. Participated in FSIS recall activities. Managed laboratory closure / relocation without a single EEO complaint. Co-author of major national food safety regulations and programs including USDA's Pathogen Reduction / HACCP Rule, FDA's Healthy People 2010, President Clinton's Directive on Communicable Diseases, and President Clinton's Food Safety Initiative. Chair of Meat and Poultry Working Group of the National Advisory Committee for Microbial Criteria in Foods, and USDA representative to CODEX Alimentarius, and Conference for Food Protection. Received the Secretary of Agriculture's Superior Service Award five times, including twice as team leader.

May 1990 - **Senior Staff Microbiologist**
April 1992 **National Institutes of Health Clinical Center, Bethesda, MD**

Directed the technical staff in the collection, processing, interpretation, and reporting of microbiological data in one of the nation's premiere research hospitals. Liaison with physicians and NIH researchers. Led research to develop and evaluate rapid methods for the detection of a variety of bacterial and viral pathogens. Designed and developed state-of-the-art molecular biology laboratory / virology service that cut the cost of processing specimens by 50%.

July 1988 - **Director Scientific Affairs, Associate Director Division of Biotechnology Services**
May 1990 **Microbiological Associates, Inc., Rockville, MD**

Directed all scientific programs for 45 member division, which was the largest and most profitable division. Advised clients on U.S. and international regulations for safety testing of pharmaceutical and biomedical products, and interacted with government agencies on regulatory issues. Designed studies for process validation and sterility testing for manufacturing processes to meet national and international regulations. Prepared investigational new drug applications to meet FDA, European and Japanese regulations.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- More than 80 publications, abstracts and book chapters
- More than 70 invited presentations and workshops
- Five major keynote addresses
- Testified before Congress more than 20 times

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Chair, Microbiology Division, Institute of Food Technologists
- Founding member, Food System Biosecurity Leadership Group
- International Association For Food Protection (IAFP), Executive Committee, Program Committee, HACCP Task Force
- Chair, Meat and Poultry Work Group, National Advisory Comm. for Microbial Criteria in Foods
- USDA representative to CODEX Alimentarius, and Conference for Food Protection, member USDA Biotechnology Council
- National Turkey Federation, Technical / Regulatory Committee
- American Meats Institute, Technical / Regulatory Committee
- Grocery Manufacturers of America, Scientific and Regulatory Policy Group
- Invited Scientist, International Livestock Congress
- Board Member, Food Research Institute
- Member, McDonalds' Food Safety Advisory Board

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Kansas State University, Distinguished Service Award for Teaching
- Five-time recipient of Secretary of Agriculture's Superior Service Award

EDUCATION

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA. Post-Doctoral Resident Medical and Public Health Microbiology. 1986 – 1988.

Univ. of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA. Graduate School of Public Health, Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, Ph.D. 1982 – 1986, doctorate conferred 1987.

Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. Medical Technology / Microbiology, M.S. 1979 – 1981.

Quinnipiac College, Hamden, CT. Medical Technology, B.S. 1977.