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Using Process Mapping to Facilitate Traceability

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Nofima is the newly formed fusion of almost all Norwegian food research institutes (incorporating Akvaforsk, Matforsk, Norconserv and Fiskeriforskning) and covers all food sectors and links in the value chain.

Nofima Market is situated in Tromsoe and carries out R&D work related to economics, marketing, logistics, rationalisation and traceability of food products.
This presentation

1. Brief recap of what traceability is, and of chain traceability in particular
2. Drivers for traceability - overview
3. Challenges related to implementation of new traceability systems
4. Experience from implementation projects and the use of the process mapping method
5. Conclusions and recommendations
**Definition - ISO 8402**

*Traceability:*

**Ability to trace the history, application or location of an entity by means of recorded identifications.**

In a product sense, it may relate to:

- the origin of materials and parts
- the product processing history
- the distribution and location of the product after delivery
Who makes the recorded identifications?

I record what I am doing, the resources used, the process parameters, etc. I have my own local database in the farm, vessel, plant, container, etc.

I get the data from previous links in the chain, the information is passed along with the fish/product. The data is transmitted on the label or in the accompanying documentation (paper, fax, E-mail, phone, etc.)
Two types of traceability

- **Internal traceability**
  Your own data

- **Chain traceability**
  The data you get (and give)

**Traceability control mechanisms**

Methods and instruments used for authentication and testing that what we receive is what the documentation says.
Push data vs. Pull data

Network solution

Internal trace-ability

Data trace-ability

Chain trace-ability

Pull data

Push data

Internal trace-ability

Data trace-ability

Chain trace-ability

Internal trace-ability

Data trace-ability

Chain trace-ability

Internal trace-ability

Data trace-ability

Chain trace-ability
What traceability is and isn’t:

• Traceability does not refer to the (product) data itself
• There is no such thing as “traceability data”
• Traceability does not mean “ability to identify origin”; that is only part of traceability

• Traceability is the name of your systematic ability to access the data you have stored
• Traceable data elements are connected to identifiers, and traceable data elements are connected to each other
Chain traceability visualization:

This is the traceability
‘The ability to trace ...’

Information (systematic recordings)
The TraceFood Wiki

The TraceFood Wiki is open for anyone to comment and edit. Built on the TraceFood Framework we still remain true to our main objective: to make traceability through a whole supply chain possible, preferably in electronic form. The goal is to ensure that food items and processes are identified in a uniform way, that a common electronic language is available for interchange of traceability information, and that a common Good Traceability Practice underlie all implementations.

In order to achieve this, we have created the TraceFood Wiki. We provide this wiki both as a help for people that wants to implement traceability in their business, but also as an arena where people can come together and discuss their different views and experiences on traceability. Our wiki has this ambition, not to speak for and lead from wisdoms working with traceability, but to help. This wiki is growing, and it is all thanks to our great contributors and exchanges the world’s leading best practices on food traceability!

Funding

The initial work of the framework was done in the EU projects TraceFish and SeafoodPlus funded by the European Commission under the fifth and sixth framework programmes. Currently, the TraceFood Framework and the TraceFood Wiki is being funded and developed through the EU funded project TRACE. Several other international projects and initiatives also support the framework. Guidelines and standards have been, and are being developed for numerous food sectors, including seafood, mineral water, honey, chicken, cereal and meat.

Navigating

Here are some navigation tips for new and old users!

- Are you new to traceability, and want to know more about it? Perhaps you want to know what traceability can do for your business?
- Traceability is the section to go for all your overview needs.

Have you decided to go into traceability and are unsure if you want to use Tracefood?
- Fundamentals will provide you with our underlying principles and basic definitions.

You are about to implement traceability. You use the Tracefood area. But you are unsure how it should be done.
- Good Traceability Practice will provide you with experiences from many combined case studies and examples of best practice from the industry.

You are in the process of implementing traceability and you want to learn how to share this information with your business partners?
- Tools contains information about concrete methods and electronic languages for exchange of information.

Frequently asked questions

Get answers to some of your questions at the TraceFood FAQ!