The focus of this symposium will be on regulatory and technological approaches to minimizing exposure of human food and animal by-products to Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy prions. Work is ongoing on means for decontaminating high-risk materials for alternative uses. Proactively, NFPA is holding this symposium to advance the state of knowledge about current technology and future research needs on prion inactivation. This one-day symposium will feature experts from government and the food industry who will review the latest developments in eliminating BSE prions from human food and animal by-products.

Topics Will Include:

- BSE and Government Policy
- The Science of BSE
- Waste Processing
- Waste Destruction
- Applied Technology

Who Should Attend

International members of the food industry, government and university members, industry professionals including food safety specialists, food microbiologists, quality assurance managers, research and development managers, regulatory affairs managers, food processing managers, sanitarians, renderers and feed millers should all plan on attending.
Preliminary Agenda
Thursday, April 1, 2004
(All conference programs will take place at the Renaissance Washington, DC Hotel)

7:00am – 8:00am Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:00am – 8:15am Welcome
John Cady, NFPA President and CEO

8:15am BSE and Government Policy Session
Chairperson – Dr. Pat Verduin, Sr. Vice President and Director, ConAgra Foods, Inc. (invited)

8:15am – 8:45am USDA/FSIS Position on BSE High Risk MaterialDisposition
Dr. William James (invited)
Food Safety Inspection Service USDA

8:45am – 9:15am FDA Position on CWD and BSE High Risk MaterialDisposition
Dr. Les Crawford, Deputy Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration

9:15am – 9:30am Policy Panel - Questions and Answers

9:30am Technology Session
Chairperson – Dr. Pat Verduin, Senior Vice President and Director, ConAgra Foods, Inc

9:30am – 10:00am The Science of BSE
The Scientific Basis for Considerations of Risk
Dr. Paul Brown, Senior Research Scientist
National Institutes of Health

10:00am – 10:15am Refreshment Break

10:15am – 10:45am Waste Processing
The Effect of Heat and Rendering on TSE Agents
Dr. David Taylor, Private Consultant
Edinburgh, Scotland

10:45am – 11:15pm Issues of Cross-Contamination
Dr. Linda Detwiler, Consultant, retired USDA

11:15pm – 11:45pm Decontamination of Food Contact Surfaces
Dr. David Asher, Chief, Laboratory of Bacterial, Parasitic and Unconventional Agents, Division of Emerging and Transfusion-Transmitted Diseases Office of Blood Research and Review, FDA

11:45am – 12:00pm Waste Processing - Questions and Answers
12:00pm – 1:00pm   Luncheon

1:00pm   Waste Destruction Session
         Chairperson – Mr. Mike Robach, Vice President Food Safety Programs, Cargill Inc. (invited)

1:00pm – 1:30pm   Inactivation of TSE Infectivity by Wet Heat and Alkali
         Dr. Robert Rohwer
         Director, Molecular Neurovirology Laboratory
         VA Medical Center

1:30pm – 2:00pm   Incineration
         Dr. Ed Rau
         National Institute of Health

2:00pm – 2:15pm   Waste Destruction - Questions and Answers

2:15pm – 2:30pm    Refreshment Break

2:30pm   Food Processing
         Chairperson – Mr. Mike Robach, Vice President Food Safety Programs, Cargill Inc.

2:30pm – 3:00pm   High Pressure Technology for the Decontamination of TSE Agents in Meat and Meat Products
         Dr. Paul Brown
         National Institutes of Health
         Dr. Richard Meyer
         President, Washington Farms, Inc.

3:00pm   Applied Technology
         Chairperson – Mr. Mike Robach, Vice President Food Safety Programs, Cargill Inc.

3:15pm –3:35pm   Processing of SRM by Alkaline Hydrolysis at Elevated Temperatures
         Dr. Gordon I. Kaye,
         Chairman of the Board
         WR², Inc.

3:35pm – 3:55pm   Enzymatic processes for inactivation of BSE infectious particles
         Dr. W. Douglas Crabb, Vice President, Technology Genencor International

3:55pm – 4:15pm   Prion and Pathogen Destruction using Thermal Conversion Technology
         Mr. Brian Appel, CEO, Changing World Technologies, Inc.

4:15pm – 4:30pm   Food Processing and Applied Technology - Questions and Answers

4:30pm    Adjourn
**Hotel Reservations**

NFPA is holding a block of rooms at the Renaissance Washington, DC hotel, where all conference programs will take place. To reserve a room, please phone the hotel directly:

**Renaissance Washington, DC**
999 9th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Reservations Phone: 1-800-468-3571

The NFPA group rate is $229 + tax per person. When calling the hotel for reservations, please refer to the “NFPA Room Block” to receive this discounted rate. **The deadline to make reservations is March 12.** After that date, reservations will be accepted on a room and group rate availability basis.

**For Additional Information**

Please contact:

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