

# PFP IT WG NEWSLETTER

PARTNERSHIP FOR FOOD PROTECTION INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WORKGROUP



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## FEATURED ARTICLE COFFEE TALK WITH

### Julie Vosilus

The Data Exchange (DX) team recently had the opportunity to catch-up with Julie Vosilus from the Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA), as part of the DX Coffee Talk series. Julie Vosilus is a state liaison for the Kansas City District/HAF W II. She and her team support the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. She primarily works with the Iowa and Nebraska food programs. Her role for the ORA DX project has been to try to serve as a technical advisor as to how the states could use the system and what the FDA could make available to the states.

Serving as a state liaison, she gets to see both sides of the fence and working with the ORA DX has offered an opportunity to see into the future and how things could be.

[Read more...](#)

## DATA EXCHANGE (DX) PROGRAM UPDATE

The Data Exchange Program has expanded for the following regulatory partners for select data sharing capabilities.

- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Minnesota
- Montana
- New Mexico

The following regulatory partners are working with the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) for data sharing via System-to-System (NFSDX).

- Alaska
- Indiana
- Kansas
- Vermont
- West Virginia
- Wyoming



"The fruit of your own hard work is the sweetest." - Deepika Padukone

## Meet your PFP IT WG Co-Chair, Phillip Fruechting!

*Public Health Section Chief II, Wholesale/Manufactured Foods, Arkansas Department of Health (ADH)*

Phillip Fruechting is a longstanding member of the PFP IT WG and champion of the Data Exchange Program. Phillip serves as the Secretary, Executive Board Member of the Arkansas Society of Professional Sanitarians. He is the past president of the Mid-Continental Association of Food and Drug Officials (MCAFDO). Phillip is a Manufactured Food Regulatory Program (MFRP) Alliance Board Officer, representing Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas. Phillip serves as Project Leader for the Arkansas Manufactured Food Program Electronic Inspections; and on the Arkansas State Committee of Plumbing Examiners, representing ADH.



**FUN FACTS about Phillip:** When not in the office you can find Phillip in his garden tending to his prized irises or hitting the trails in Arkansas. Phillip takes daytrips to the scenic Ouachita Mountains located in central Arkansas to enjoy the crystalline lakes, rivers and beautiful woodlands. Another of Phillip’s favorite hiking spots is Rattlesnake Ridge, offering plenty of trails to take in the beautiful sights from the top of the ridge and rocky slopes. With views like that we are lucky that Phillip comes back into the office!



## Meet your PFP IT WG Co-Chair, Jacob Fleig!

*Consumer Protections Coordinator, Bureau of Feed & Seed, Missouri Department of Agriculture, Plant Industries Division*

Jacob Fleig works to improve coordination of information with state and federal partners. He is the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) Technology Committee Chair and sits on the Education & Training Committee, Inspection & Sampling Committee, Ingredient Definitions Committee and is also the Collective Terms investigator. He is a past member of the Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance (FSPCA) Steering Committee and is on the Animal Food WG. Jacob is a Governing Council member of AFDO’s USAPlants/ USAFoodSafety project, and Chair of USAPlants user group.



**FUN FACTS about Jacob:** Jacob spent 25 years in the food and beverage industry and has worked in every role in a restaurant from dishwashing, cooking, waiting, and bartending, to managing locations for private multi-unit companies and being part owner and operator of a winery. Jacob developed a passion for food and wine and enjoys cooking for family and friends whenever possible. Travelling and experiencing different cultures and food are Jacob’s ongoing goals.

In his most recent trip, Jacob traveled to the Black Forest region of Germany where he met and enjoyed visiting with relatives who still reside in and near the original family homestead from which six generations ago, his first family members departed for a life in the U.S. Guten Appetit!



**Let’s Go Bananas!** A banana has approximately 30% of your daily recommended intake of vitamin B6. Vitamin B6 helps the brain produce serotonin, which is considered a mood stabilizer.

Serotonin impacts your motor skills and emotions. It is also the chemical that helps you sleep and digest food. Eating a banana may help relieve depression and anxiety by stimulating the serotonin levels in your body.

So, the next time you are not feeling your best, grab a banana!



## ORA Data Exchange

The ORA DX Release 7.0 enhanced the Sample Data Sharing capability of System-to-System (aka NFSDX) and Enhanced DX Client. It also introduced the capability in the ORA Partners Portal (aka ORAPP) in addition to a few minor updates, such as FDA confidential information disclaimer changes. The following high-level enhancements were deployed:

Capability	System	Enhancement/Change Description
Sample Data Sharing	System-to-System Interface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support four additional sample analysis types: decomposition in seafood, parasite, radionuclides, and virus</li> <li>Update previously submitted sample data</li> </ul>
	ORA Partners Portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduced enhanced web upload of samples receipt and analysis data via an Excel spreadsheet file upload</li> </ul>
	Enhanced DX Client	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support four additional sample analysis types: decomposition in seafood, parasite, radionuclides, and virus</li> <li>Update previously submitted sample data</li> </ul>
Non-Contracted Inspections	ORA Partners Portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor data processing updates</li> <li>User interface updates</li> </ul>
Firm Search and History	ORA Partners Portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added FDA confidential information disclaimer to Firm Search Excel file export and Firm History printable page</li> </ul>

### Contracted Sample Data Sharing - State Collected Sample

State collected Sample Data Sharing capabilities support the submission of samples collected under the Food and Feed Contracts, and Lab Flexible Funding Model (LFFM) agreements. Regulatory partners collect and analyze samples as part of the field inspections and share the outcomes with FDA. The state collected sample data sharing capabilities include submitting sample analysis results data for the following analysis types: Elements, Pesticides, Mycotoxins, Microbiology, Radionuclides, Filth Analysis for Parasites, Decomposition in Seafood, and Viruses.

#### New (Release 8.0) and Upcoming (Release 8.1)

##### ORA DX Release 8.0

FDA now provides the ability for users to share State Collected Samples Data via System-to-System (NFSDX), Enhanced DX Client and ORA Web/Partner Portal (ORAPP). This capability was made available to states in December 2020.

##### ORA DX Release 8.1

FDA will be providing the ability for users to upload Contracted Inspection Attachments via System-to-System (NFSDX) in addition to a few minor enhancements to the Sample Data Sharing capabilities. The release is tentatively slated to be available to states in February 2021.



For additional information, please contact us at [NFSDX Info@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Info@fda.hhs.gov).



### Upcoming Virtual Event!

#### FY21 Alliance Meeting, Feb. 1 - 4, 2021

Two speed dating sessions will be held during this event on Feb. 3 and Feb. 4 to learn more about the ORA Data Exchange:

- Session 1 led by FDA
- Session 2 led by states participating in the ORA DX program

Visit [MFRPA](#) to register and find more information.

# Q. A. ORA DX Frequently Asked Questions

**Question:** What is the Lab Flexible Funding Model (LFFM)?

**Answer:** It's a cooperative agreement that is intended to enhance the capacity and capabilities of state human and animal food testing laboratories in support of an integrated food safety system. Specifically, through sample testing in the areas of microbiology, chemistry, and radiochemistry, and the development special projects that would support and expand that testing. This project will strengthen and improve FDA's efforts to

## Data Exchange Information Resources

- PFP [Website](#) and [PFP IT WG Page](#)
- [Laboratory Flexible Funding Model](#) at 2020 AFDO Conference
- [ORA DX](#) and [Inventory Sharing](#) at 2020 MFRPA Conference
- For ORA DX FAQs, click [here](#)

prevent foodborne illnesses and minimize foodborne exposures through building a nationally integrated laboratory science system and equip partner laboratories with additional resources that can be employed to build and increase sample throughput capacity within their state.

**Question:** Is LFFM a requirement for labs to participate in sample data sharing?

**Answer:** LFFM is not a requirement to participate in sample data sharing. However, currently, sample analysis data is submitted to FDA only under FDA assignment and not for surveillance purposes.

## Upcoming DX Training Schedule

- Non-Contracted Inspection - 1/21/2021
- State Collected Samples - 2/18/2021
- Firm Search and Firm History - 3/18/2021 and 4/13/2021

For additional details, contact us at [NFSIDX\\_Info@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:NFSIDX_Info@fda.hhs.gov).

**Question:** How do I look up a FDA Establishment Identifier (FEI) number?

**Answer:** The partner can access [FEI Search Portal](#).

**Question:** How do I find out additional information about DX capabilities?

**Answer:** Requests for additional information can be sent to [NFSIDX\\_Info@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:NFSIDX_Info@fda.hhs.gov) or requests can be sent from the contact us page on the [ORA Partners Portal](#).

"I may look like a potato now, but one day I'll turn into fries and you'll want me then." – Spud Tater Jr.

**Question:** Do both human and animal food programs participate in the DX?

**Answer:** Currently, engagement has primarily been with human food programs. But there are also some feed programs participating and the plan is to engage more in the future. Additionally, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) inspection data can be submitted via System-to-System services.

**Question:** What technical components are used for the DX System-to-System capabilities?

**Answer:** System-to-System services use technical components such as XML schema definitions, Java, and Soap Web Services.

