Interstate Food Transportation Assessment Project
Trucking Statistics

- 73% of all goods are shipped by truck
- 90% of the US food supply is transported by truck
- Truck traffic is expected to double by the year 2020
Project Goal

To determine the current state of food safety and defense of in-transit food in interstate commerce
Objective

- Identify and test mechanisms for effective coordination between:
  - MDA, ODA, ISDH, IDPH
  - Other State agencies
  - State Police
  - FDA, USDA
  - Local Health Departments
Project Phases

- **Phase I**: Feasibility assessment in April 2006
  - Develop methods and forms

- **Phase II**: Additional data gathering & practice - Summer 2006 (Michigan, Ohio, Indiana)

Planning

- Training
- Equipment
- Survey
- Working w/ State police (bullet proof vests, waivers)
- Uniforms/ visible identification
- Communication with other agencies
- Coordinating with local health
- Reading invoices & talking with drivers
- Seals on trucks
- Disposal issues
- Enforcement
- Follow up
Focus Areas

- Lack of refrigeration
- Cross-Contamination
- Labeling
- Packaging
- Pest Activity
- Insanitary Storage
- Security of food loads
- Driver knowledge of food safety & defense
Lack of Refrigeration
Lack of Refrigeration

- Not turned on – energy savings
Asian Grocery Store Delivery

Internal temperatures 66°F

Ready to eat, hot meat meals delivered from Chicago to Detroit
Asian Grocery Store Delivery

Internal temperatures 73°F

Smoked Duck
Asian Grocery Store Delivery

Featuring a sun roof
Improper Refrigeration

150 lbs. Gourmet Fish
Improper Refrigeration

Insulated containers but no coolant
Cross-Contamination

- Raw meats/ poultry dripping on vegetables
Cross-Contamination

- Raw meats/ poultry dripping on other food & surfaces
Labeling

- Food products lacking label or source information.
Labeling

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Labeling

- Food products lacking label or source information
Labeling

- Unknown ingredients
- Unknown source
Packaging

- Improper packaging - used grocery bags & re-used boxes
Packaging

- Improper packaging - used grocery bags & re-used boxes
Pest Activity

Insect egg mass on duck
Pest Activity

Bugs in Bok Choy
Insanitary Storage

Roof leak - mold on walls
Insanitary Storage

Blood & food on bed floor
Food Defense
Security Seals

Up to 42% of trucks carrying full or partial loads did not have security seals or locks.
Driver Surveys

Low driver awareness of safe food temperatures and low levels of driver food safety training
Assessment Teams

Wisconsin

Michigan

Indiana

Ohio

Illinois
Methods

- On call - Officer notifies agency
- Weigh stations or other fixed sites
- Ride along
- Source/destination inspections
Method Officer Notifies Agency

- Provide food safety training to State police
- Provide 24 hr. contacts
- Determine ability/need to respond to the scene
Method

Officer Notifies Agency

- Respond to scene
- Assess the load
- Obtain records
- Enforcement as necessary
- Notify local health departments of deliveries
- Media?
Method
Weigh Stations/ Fixed sites

- Count trucks to determine percentage of food traffic
- Identify type of carrier
- Random or targeted selection
- Survey the truck driver
- Assess the interior of the food carrier
- Enforcement as necessary
- Communication
Weigh Station
Ride Along Method

- Vehicles bypassing scales
- Survey truck drivers of stopped vehicles

- Assess the load
- Divert to fixed site if necessary
Truck Types
Box Refrigerated
Truck Types
Box Non Refrigerated
Truck Types - Tankers

- Liquids
- Flour
Truck Types

Livestock

Grain/Produce
Disposal

- Landfill
- Trash Bag
- Establishment
Disposal

- Landfill via wrecker
- Trash Bag
- Establishment
Surveys Conducted

- >25,000 trucks observed & categorized

- Surveys/ inspections conducted:
  - Illinois 111
  - Indiana 117
  - Michigan 168
  - Ohio 219
Survey Findings

- Statistics varied greatly between locations - “commodity specific corridors”

- \( \sim 14\% \) of identifiable trucks on the road carrying food (probably higher)

- 59\% of trucks were going to a single location vs. multiple deliveries
Survey Findings

- Truck types overall:
  - Refrigerated 62-71%
  - Non Refrigerated 11-26%
  - Tankers 5-18%
  - Grain/Produce 0-25%
  - Others (animal) 0-3%

- Destinations cited:
  - Warehouses- 38%
  - Food service establishments- 21%
  - Grocery stores- 36%
  - Other- 5%
Survey Findings
Ohio data

Types of Food

24% 9% 10% 24% 47 33%

Meat Dairy Produce Multi Straight

21 18 13 9 35 16 47 23
Survey Findings

- About 15% of trucks pulled over for a survey were empty (returning)
- Large semis surveyed had little or no areas of concern
- Most problems found with smaller box trucks and ethnic food transportation
Survey Findings

- Mixed loads with multiple destinations were generally noted as not having adequate segregation.

- Communication among truckers is fast - many trucks found bypassing scales, aware food was target.
Conclusions

- Food transportation practices provide opportunities for threats to the safety and defense of our food supply
- Improved coordination increased the efficiency and effectiveness of efforts
- Coordinated surveillance and enforcement can be an effective tool for plugging gaps in the system
- Additional emphasis on driver knowledge needed
Conclusions

- This project brought awareness of transportation safety and defense issues forward.

- Interagency and interstate teamwork laid foundation for future productive working relationships.

- Fixed site teams worked for survey purposes, but targeted efforts can be more effective for compliance purposes.
Resources

- AFTC Resource Directory
  - Vulnerability & Threat Assessment Tool
  - Security Planning Guide
  - Highway Watch® Program
Resources

- AFDO “Guidelines for the Transportation of Food Products”
- FDA “Food Producers, Processors, and Transporters: Food Security Preventive Measures Guidance”
Future Efforts

- Continued response & random transportation assessments
- Continued interstate/interagency communication
- Partner with transportation industry
- Increase awareness of transportation issues
- Increased focus of trucks at receiving
DONT'T DRINK AND DRIVE