

Advanced Bootcamp  
February 21, 2024

# FDA Food Code Requirements for ROP

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Retail Food Specialist  
FDA, Office of State Cooperative Programs

# Food Code Requires Variance & HACCP Plan for Specialized Processing Methods

- Smoking food for preservation (not flavor)
- Curing food
- Using food additives or adding components such as vinegar
  - As a method of food preservation
  - To render a food non-TCS



# Food Code Requires Variance & HACCP Plan for Specialized Processing Methods

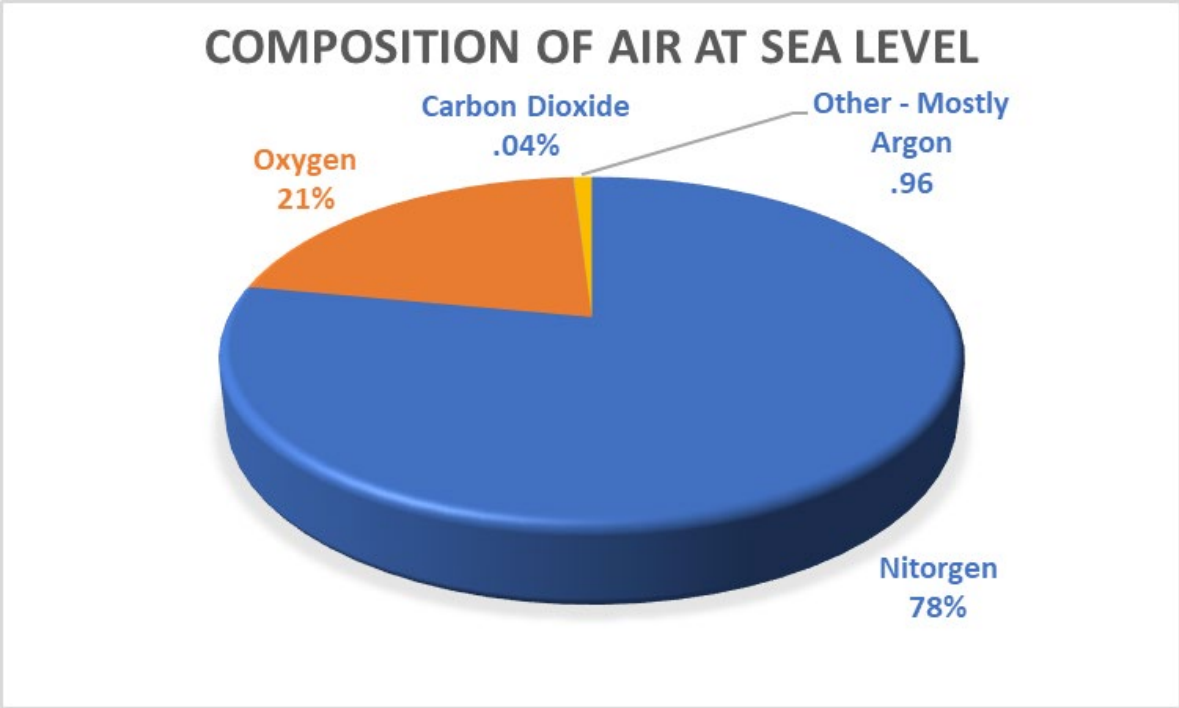
- Operating a molluscan shellfish display tank.
- Custom processing animals for personal use.
- Sprouting seeds or beans.
- Any method determined by the RA to require a variance.
- Packaging TCS food using a ROP method ***except where C. bot. and L. mono. are controlled under § 3-502.12.***



## ROP Food Code Definition

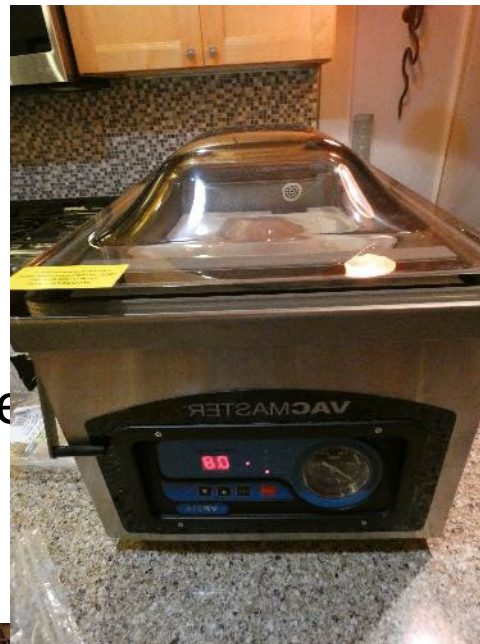
The reduction of the amount of oxygen in a package by:

- Removing oxygen
- Displacing and replacing oxygen with other gas or gasses, or
- Otherwise controlling the oxygen content to < normal at sea level (21%) and
- Involves food for which the hazards *C. bot.* or *L. mono.* Require control in the final packaged form.



# Vacuum Packaging

- Vacuum packaging
  - Air is removed from a package
  - The package is hermetically sealed so that a vacuum remains inside the package.



# Modified Atmosphere (MAP) & Controlled Atmosphere Packaging (CAP)

- Modified atmosphere packaging (MAP)
  - Atmosphere of a package of food is modified so that its composition is different from air.
  - Atmosphere may change over time
    - permeability of the packaging
    - respiration of the food.
  - MAP includes
    - Reduction in the % of oxygen
    - Total replacement of oxygen, or
    - Increase in the proportion of other gases (carbon dioxide, nitrogen)
- Controlled atmosphere packaging (CAP)
  - Modified so that until the package is opened, its composition is different from air, and continuously controlled
    - Using oxygen scavengers or
    - a combination of total replacement of oxygen, nonrespiring food, and impermeable packaging material.

# Typical MAP Equipment



# Typical MAP Equipment





# Cook Chill Packaging

- **Cook-chill packaging**, in which cooked food is hot filled into impermeable bags that are then sealed or crimped closed. The bagged food is rapidly chilled and refrigerated at temperatures that inhibit the growth of psychrotrophic pathogens.



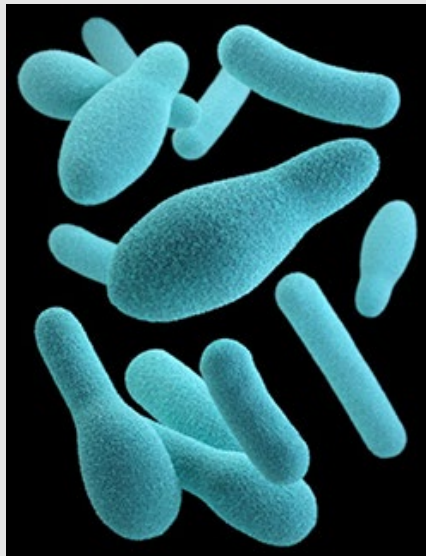
# Sous Vide Packaging:

- in which raw or partially cooked food is **vacuum packaged** in an impermeable bag, **cooked in the bag**, rapidly chilled, and refrigerated at temperatures that inhibit the growth of psychrotrophic pathogens.





## Why the Fuss?



- *Listeria monocytogenes*
  - Facultative anaerobe
  - Growth at refrigerated temperatures
  - Ubiquitous: Air, soil, water, food products, animals
  - Serious illness in elderly, young, immunocompromised, and pregnant women
- *Clostridium botulinum*
  - Anaerobe
  - Some types grow at refrigerator temps – Types E and non-proteolytic B&F (38F), found in marine/aquatic environments.
  - Vegetative cells relatively easy to kill with heat, but organism produces spores which are very heat resistant and survive normal cooking temperatures
  - Produces a neurotoxin, one of the deadliest naturally occurring substances known.

**ROP  
without a  
variance:  
3-502.12  
HACCP  
Plan  
Required**

**Foods with 2 barriers**

- AW of 0.91 or less
- PH of 4.6 or less
- MEAT or POULTRY product cured at a FOOD PROCESSING PLANT regulated by the USDA
- FOOD with a high level of competing organisms such as raw MEAT, raw POULTRY, or raw vegetables

**Cheeses: commercially manufactured in a food processing plant with no ingredients added**

**Fish: must be frozen before, during, and after ROP. Otherwise, variance is always needed.**

**Cook-chill & sous vide**

# Cook-Chill & Sous Vide Without a Variance

- The following excludes FISH
- Provide a HACCP plan to RA prior to processing Ensures food is:
  - Prepared and consumed **on the premises** (or off premises within same business entity).
  - No sales to other businesses or directly to consumers.

*Single Hazard Special Process HACCP Template for  
Reduced Oxygen Packaging: Raw Meat and Poultry,  
Cheese, Frozen Fish*

*Regulatory Agency Jurisdiction NAME (fill in form)*

Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_ Date Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Valid until \_\_\_\_\_

**A. General Information**

This is a placeholder for the general information needed: e.g. operator name, location, Person-in-Charge (PIC) name, contacts information, etc.  
*fill in form*

**B. Categorization – Recipe(s)**

Categorization: Reduced Oxygen Packaging (ROP).  
A food establishment is required to have a HACCP plan in place for Reduced Oxygen Packaging for following the processes under the most recent edition of the FDA Food Code § 3-502.12. This plan will act as the HACCP template to meet the requirements of FDA Food Code § 8-301.11

**B.1. Are there any buyer specifications (supply controls) or special equipment required/recommended?**

Made/Assembled in house. List Products \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Recipe and Products must be listed in C. Flow Diagram – Chart below*

Commercially purchased. List Products: \_\_\_\_\_

**3-502.12 (D)**

<http://www.foodprotect.org/guides-documents/single-hazard-special-process-haccp-template-guidance-document-and-sample-templates/>

# Cook-Chill & Sous Vide Without a Variance

– Cooked in accordance with 3-401.11 (A), (B), and (C).



3-502.12 (D)

# Cook-Chill & Sous Vide Without a Variance

- Protected from contamination before and after cooking
- Placed in a package with an oxygen barrier and sealed
  - before cooking, or
  - placed in a PACKAGE and sealed immediately after cooking and before reaching a 135°F



3-502.12 (D)

# Cook-Chill & Sous Vide Without a Variance

- Cooled to 5°C (41°F) in the sealed package per the Code and:
  - Held at 41°F ≤7 days and consumed or discarded; or
  - Cooled to 34°F within 48 hrs. of reaching 41°F = 30-day shelf life;
  - Cooled to 34°F within 48 hours of reaching 41°F, removed from 34°F, and maintained at 41°F ≤ 7 days (can't exceed 30 days);
  - Held frozen with no shelf-life restriction while frozen.





# Cook-Chill & Sous Vide Without a Variance

- Held in a refrigeration unit that is equipped with an electronic system that continuously monitors time and temperature and is visually examined for proper operation twice daily.
- If transported offsite: verifiable electronic monitoring



3-502.12 (D)

# Other Requirements

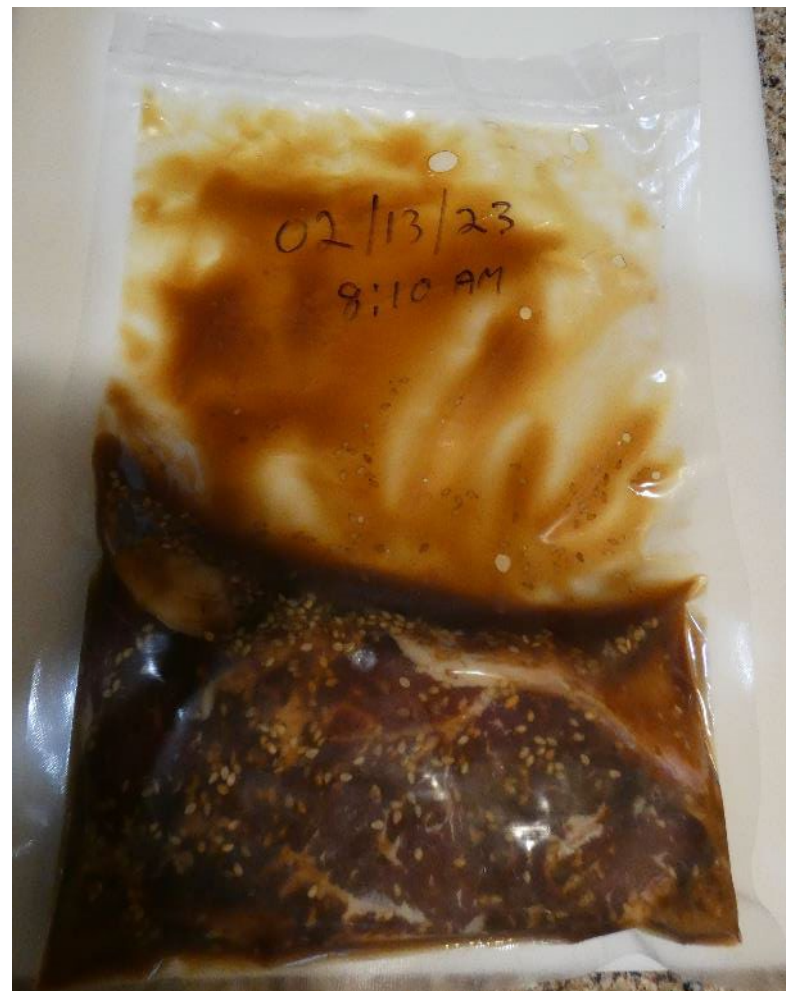
- Labeled with product name & date packaged.
- Maintain cooling and cold holding records for 6 mos. for regulatory review.
- Operational procedures:
  - Prohibit BHC with RTE
  - Designated work area
  - Cleaning/sanitizing procedures
- Training program
  - Concepts for safe operation
  - Equipment use & operational procedures



3-502.12 (D)

## ROP Methods Without a Variance or HACCP Plan

- A HACCP Plan is not required for ROP packaging methods to package TCS food that is always:
  - (1) Labeled with the production **time and date**,
  - (2) Held at 5°C (41°F) or less during refrigerated storage, and
  - (3) Removed from its package in the food establishment **within 48 hours** after packaging.
- Not FISH

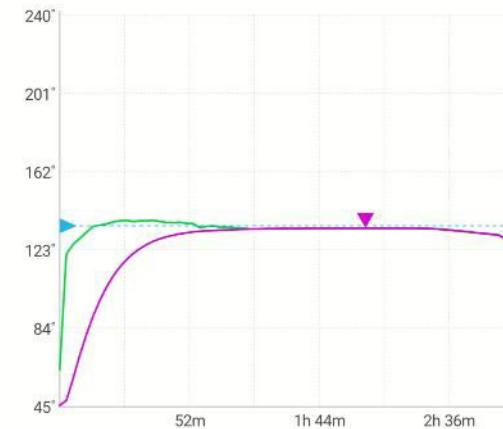


# Possible Additional Sous Vide Equipment



MEATER  
 Sirloin Steak

#MEATERmade



# Question 1

With this type of ROP, cooked food is hot filled into impermeable bags that are then sealed or crimped closed. The bagged food is rapidly chilled and refrigerated.

- A) Vacuum Packaging
- B) Cook chill
- C) Sous vide
- D) Controlled atmosphere packaging (CAP)

## Question 2

With this type of ROP method, air is removed from a package of food and the package is hermetically sealed so that a vacuum remains inside the package.

- A) Vacuum Packaging
- B) Cook chill
- C) Sous vide
- D) Modified atmosphere packaging (MAP)

## Question 3

In this type of ROP packaging, raw or partially cooked food is vacuum packaged in an impermeable bag, cooked in the bag, rapidly chilled, and refrigerated.

- A) Vacuum Packaging
- B) Cook chill
- C) Sous vide
- D) Modified atmosphere packaging (MAP)

## Question 4

Retail establishments may use ROP methods on TCS foods without a variance if the provisions of 3-502.12 (B) are followed exactly as written and it is a food with a high level of competing organisms such as raw meat, raw poultry, raw vegetables, or fresh raw fish.

- True
- False



## Question 5

For preparation without a variance, Cook-chill and sous vide products must be cooked according to time/temperatures as specified under 3-401.11 (A), (B), and (C) unless a consumer advisory is provided as detailed in 3-603.11.

- True
- False



# HACCP Plan Validation, Review and Approval

Veronica Bryant, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

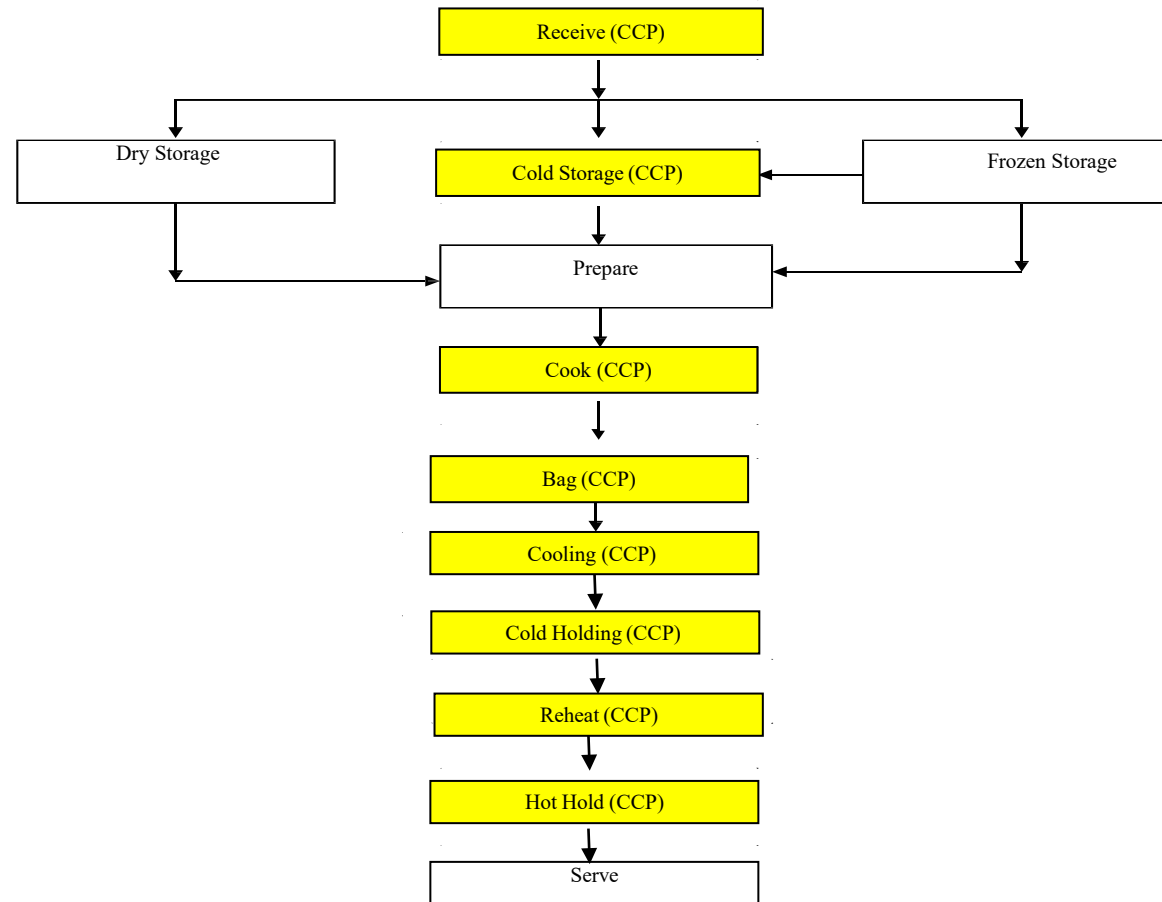
# HACCP Plan Basics

- Food Flow
- Hazard Analysis
- Critical Control Point
- Critical Limits
- Monitoring Procedures
- SOPs/Prerequisite Programs



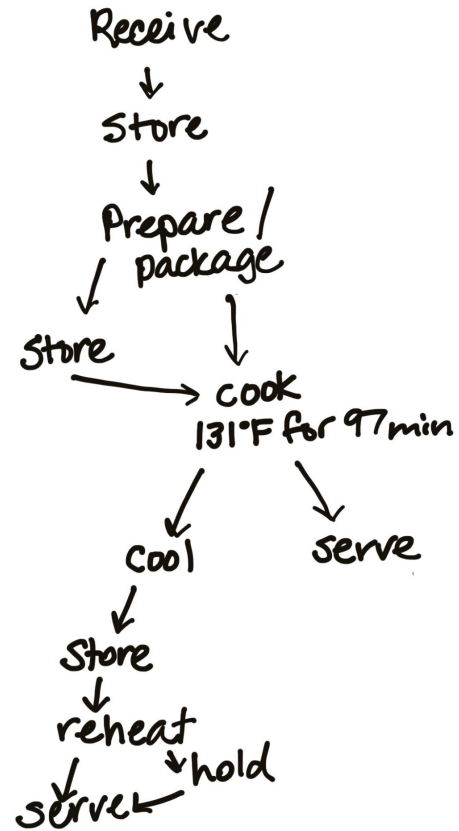
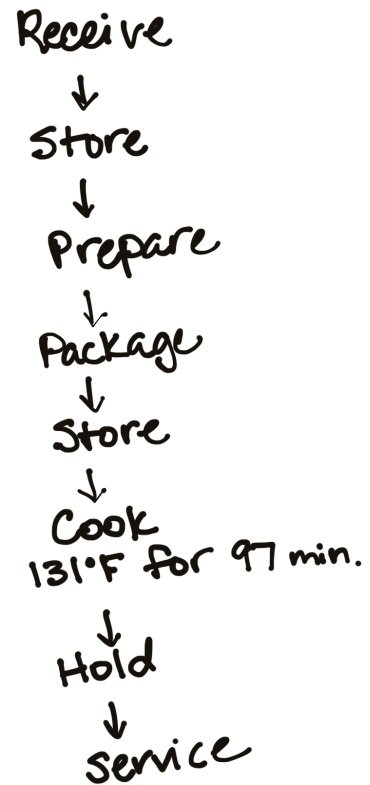
This is the easy part!

# What Would You Do?



# Food Flow Examples

Sous vide – steak



# Food Flow Examples

Receive → Store → Prepare → Package → Store → Cook → Hold → Serve

First, we receive the produce from our supplier. Then we store the product in our walk-in cooler. Then we prepare the product. Then the package the product in ROP. We store the product in ROP packaging and then we cook the product to 131F for 91 minutes. We hold the product in a steam table above 135F and then we serve it.

1. Receive
2. Store
3. Prepare
4. Package
5. Store
6. Cook
7. Hold
8. Serve

# Poll Question – Determining CCPs

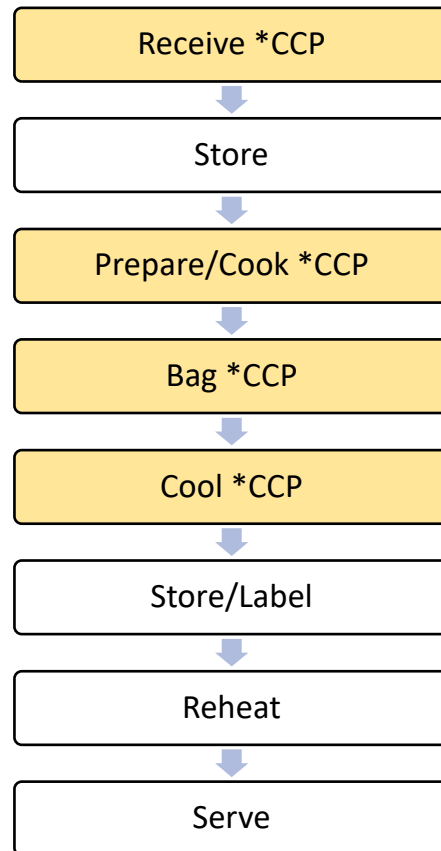
Canned Spaghetti Sauce  
Ground Beef  
Onions, Garlic  
Parmesan Cheese  
Herbs (Oregano, Basil)  
Sugar  
Red Wine

1. Add ground beef to steam kettle, cook until meat reaches 155F. Drain
2. Add onions and garlic. Sauté.
3. Add spaghetti sauce, salt, herbs, sugars, red wine, cheese. Stir.
4. Heat to 190F, then simmer while stirring
5. Portion into bags
6. Seal bags
7. Place in ice bath to cool
8. Remove and place in cooler
9. Refrigerate and store
10. Reheat and serve

- Poll Question #1 Which of the following is a primary hazard of concern for this process?
  - A Salmonella
  - B Bacillus Cereus
  - C Clostridium Botulinum
- Poll Question #2 Which steps are the CCPs
  - A 1 and 4
  - B 6 and 9
  - C 4 and 7



# Poll Question – Food Flow



- Could you approve a HACCP plan with this food flow diagram?

–Yes

–No

Correct Answer – No, store/label CCP is missing, and you cannot approve a plan if there are missing CCPs.

# What is Validation?

- Validation –Will the process control the hazards as designed?
  - Completed by operator
    - Sometimes done informally, operator has validated once they have turned it in
  - Completed by regulator
    - Regulatory authority agrees or disagrees with operators' validation

Validation	Before
Monitoring	During
Verification	After

# ROP Validation Considerations

- Compliance with Food Code Section 3-502.12
  - Time/temperature requirements
  - Final cook temperatures
  - Cook/chill or sous vide not sold in package to consumer
  - Labeling for raw meat ROP
- Is additional science being used?
  - Equivalent Lethality
  - Alternate Monitoring Procedures

# Monitoring and Equivalent Lethality

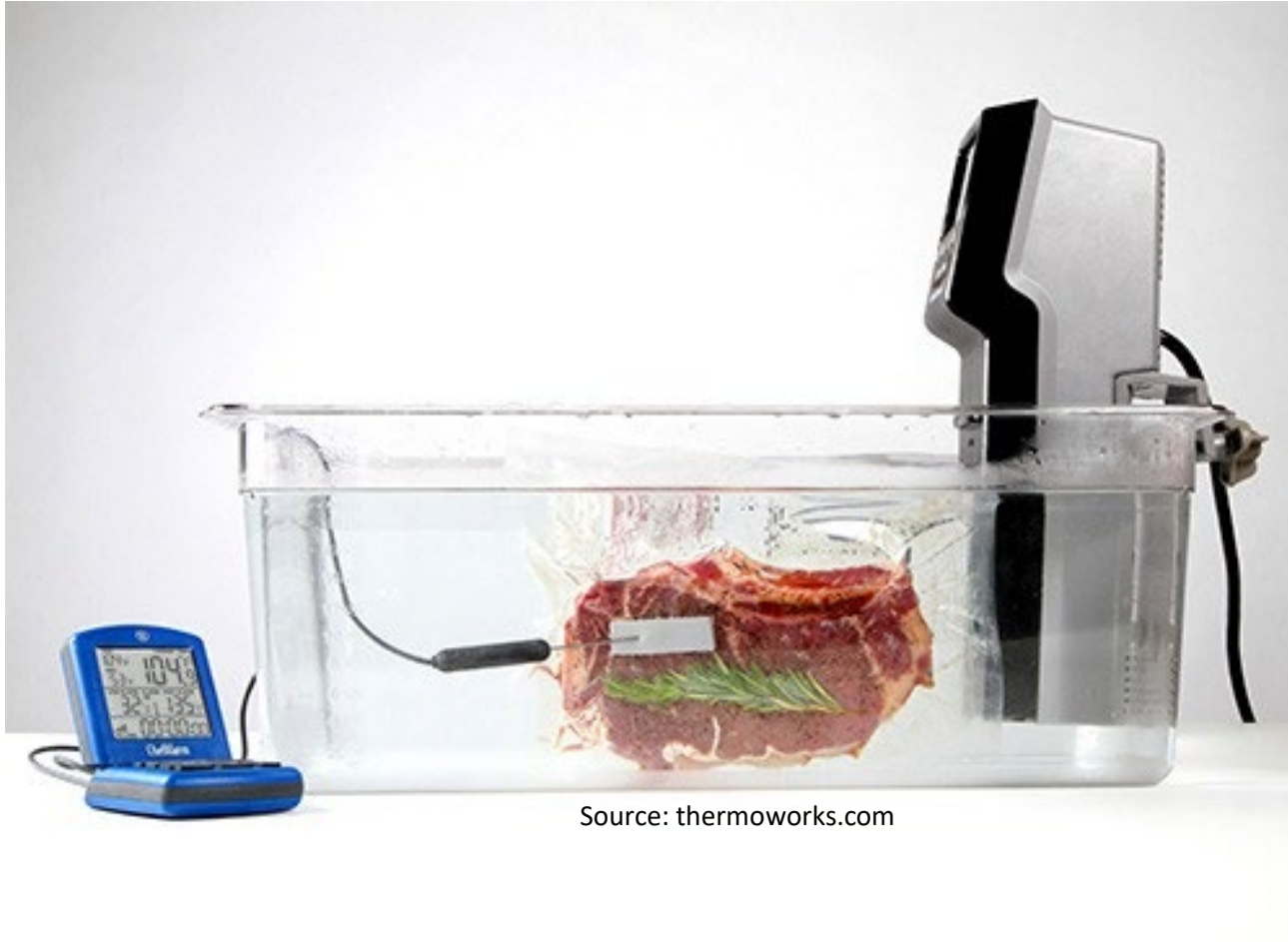
- Using FSIS Appendix A, will not reach FDA Food Code Final Cook Temps
- Cannot meet 3-502.12, will need a variance
- Most commonly used alternate validation used
- Will need to monitor both time and temperature
- Not instantaneous cooking temperature like food code cooking temperature

**Table 2. Time-Temperature Combinations for Meat Products to Achieve Lethality**

Temperatures stated are the minimum internal temperatures that must be met in all parts of the meat product for the total dwell time listed.<sup>5</sup> An establishment must ensure both time and temperature parameters are met to use this table to support its process achieves the Log reduction target. **Relative humidity**<sup>6</sup> and heating **come-up-time (CUT)**<sup>7</sup> are also **critical operating parameters** when using this table. (See pages [37](#) and [38](#) for poultry endpoint time-temperature tables).

<i>Degrees Fahrenheit</i>	<i>Degrees Centigrade</i>	<i>6.5-log<sub>10</sub> Lethality</i>	<i>7-log<sub>10</sub> Lethality</i>
130	54.4	112 min.	121 min.
131	55.0	89 min.	97 min.
132	55.6	71 min.	77 min.
133	56.1	56 min.	62 min.
134	56.7	45 min.	47 min.
135	57.2	36 min.	37 min.
136	57.8	28 min.	32 min.
137	58.4	23 min.	24 min.
138	58.9	18 min.	19 min.
139	59.5	15 min.	15 min.
140	60.0	12 min.	12 min.
141	60.6	9 min.	10 min.
142	61.1	8 min.	8 min.
143	61.7	6 min.	6 min.
144	62.2	5 min.	5 min.

# HACCP Monitoring Procedures



Source: thermoworks.com

# Validated Monitoring Procedures

- Other monitoring methods exist
- Internal temperature is “easy button”
- Operators can use other validated methods



# Validated Monitoring Procedures

Douglas E. Baldwin, Sous vide cooking: A review, International Journal of Gastronomy and Food Science, Volume 1, Issue 1, 2012, Pages 15-30.

- Measuring thickness instead of internal temperature
- "Come up time" included

Table 2

Time sufficient to pasteurize meat, fish, or poultry in water baths from 55 °C/131 °F to 66 °C/150.8 °F. This table is based on the internationally accepted and generally conservative 2 min at 70 °C/158 °F with  $z = 7.5$  °C/13.5 °F for a million to one reduction in *Listeria monocytogenes* and applies to all foods (FDA, 2011). For less conservative pasteurization times, see Baldwin (2008) and Fig. 5. This calculation uses a thermal diffusivity of  $1.11 \times 10^{-7}$  m<sup>2</sup>/s, a surface heat transfer coefficient of 95 W/m<sup>2</sup>-K, and  $\beta = 0$  up to 30 mm and  $\beta = 0.28$  above 30 mm in (\*).

Thickness (mm)	55 °C 131 °F	56 °C 132.8 °F	57 °C 134.6 °F	58 °C 136.4 °F	59 °C 138.2 °F	60 °C 140 °F
5	3:33	2:41	2:00	1:30	1:08	0:51
10	3:35	2:43	2:04	1:36	1:15	1:00
15	3:46	2:55	2:16	1:48	1:28	1:13
20	4:03	3:11	2:32	2:04	1:44	1:28
25	4:17	3:25	2:46	2:18	1:57	1:41
30	4:29	3:38	3:00	2:32	2:11	1:55
35	4:45	3:53	3:15	2:46	2:25	2:09
40	4:59	4:07	3:29	3:00	2:39	2:22
45	5:21	4:29	3:50	3:22	3:00	2:42
50	5:45	4:53	4:14	3:44	3:21	3:03
55	6:10	5:18	4:39	4:08	3:45	3:26
60	6:38	5:45	5:06	4:35	4:10	3:50
65	7:07	6:15	5:34	5:02	4:36	4:15
70	7:40	6:45	6:03	5:30	5:04	4:42



# Validated Monitoring Procedures



- Different equipment used
- Additional SOPs
- Monitoring procedure must match validated process

## Poll Question -

- When monitoring sous vide cooking temperatures, recording the temperatures of the water bath is sufficient for monitoring procedures
  - True
  - False

# File Review and HACCP Approval

- Previous inspections are part of approving HACCP Plan
  - What documentation is available?
  - Active Managerial Control
  - Cooling/Space considerations
-

# Remember

- Retail HACCP Builds on Food Code
  - Look for unique hazards or processes outside the code
  - Operators can have extra items in plan
  - Cannot leave out critical items
-



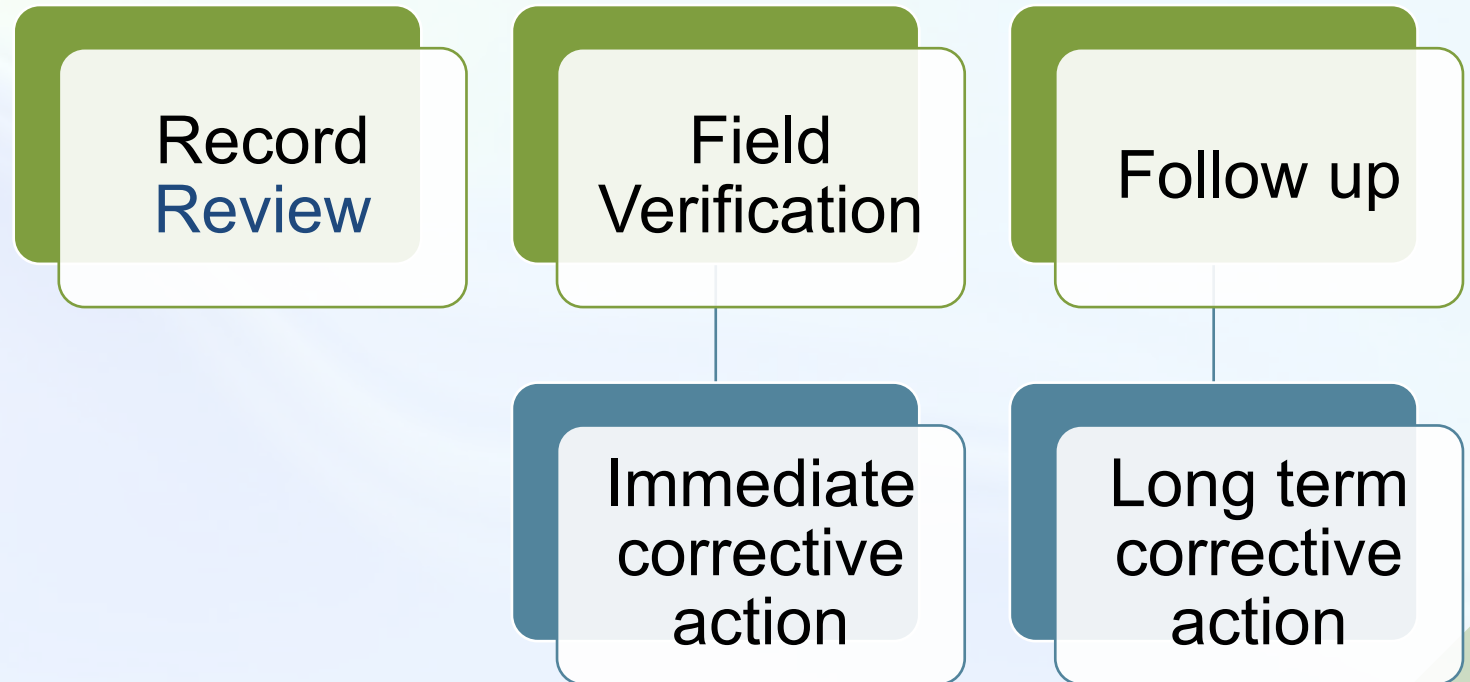
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# HACCP FIELD VERIFICATIONS

Tara Edwards  
Senior Environmental Health Specialist  
Southern Nevada Health District

# Overview

- **Purpose of a field verification?**
  - **VERIFY** that the plan is being followed as written
- **Do you currently conduct field verifications?**



# File Review

- Products
- Process Flow
- CCP Summary
- Logs
- Previous compliance issues

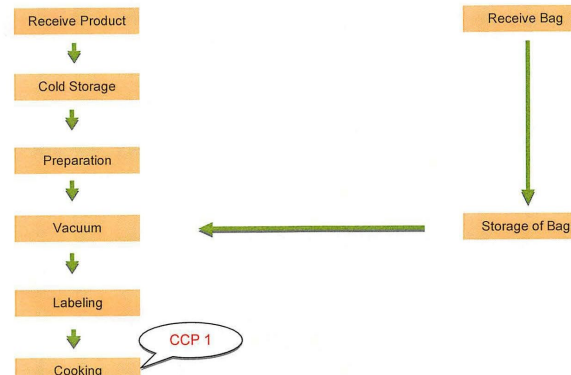


**Cooling Temperature Log**

**Instructions:** Record temperatures at 2 hours, 6 hours and every 12 hours thereafter during the cooling cycle. Record corrective actions, if applicable. The foodservice manager will verify that the foodservice staff is cooling food properly by visually monitoring foodservice employees during the shift and reviewing, initialing, and dating this log daily. Maintain this log for a minimum of 6 months.

Date	Food Item	Time/ Temp	Time/ Temp	Time/ Temp	Time/ Temp	Time/ Temp	Time/ Temp	Corrective Actions Taken	Initials	Verified By/Date

Chicken For Cold Preparation - Sous vide Cooking Flowchart

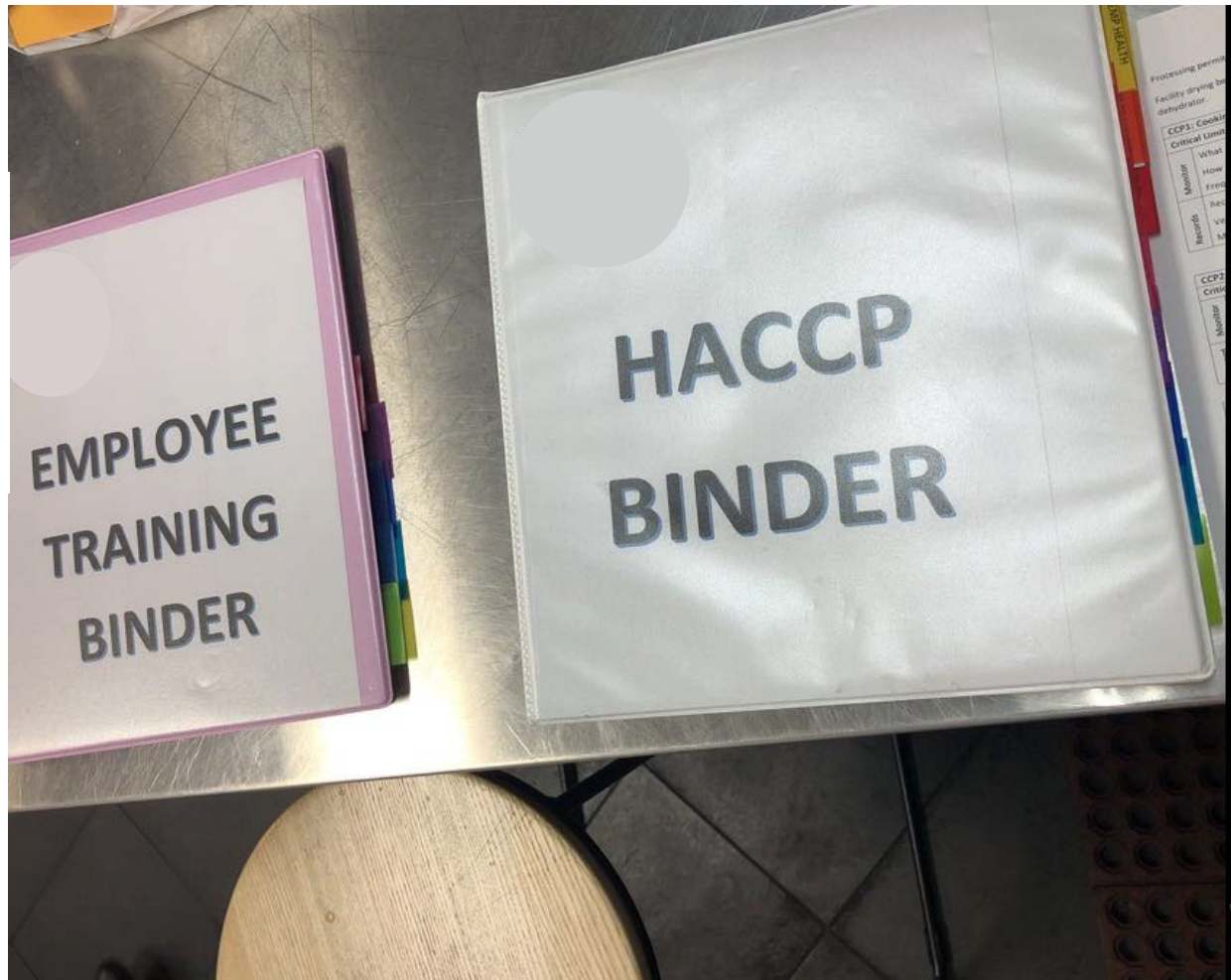


## Proteins - Sous Vide Worksheet

Food Flow	CCP	Hazard (B)Biological (P) Physical (C)Chemical	Critical Limits	
Cooking	CCP # 1	<b>Vegetative Bacteria:</b> Listeria Monocytogenes, Campylobacter Jejuni, Yersinia Enterocolitica, Salmonella <b>Spore Forming/Toxin Producing Bacteria:</b> Bacillus Cereus, Clostridium Perfringens, Staphylococcus Aureus, Clostridium Botulinum <b>Fecal/OralRoute Hazards:</b> Escherichia Coli O157:H7, ShigellaSPP <b>Viruses:</b> Norovirus, Hepatitis A <b>Parasites:</b> Trichinella <b>Chemical Hazards:</b> Naturally Occurring Chemical Toxins: Additives etc	-Water temperature for (Beef & Lamb) 138.0 F -Core Temperature 138.0 F for at least 18 minutes  -Water temperature for (Pork) 145.0 F -Core Temperature 145.0 F for at least 4 minutes  -Water temperature for (Poultry) 147.2 F -Core Temperature 147.2 F for at least 3 minutes	Food Prepare temperatures record in Cool will be checke Logger Therm DUO) K Type a needle probe part of the me the Core temp time of the co secure the pu avoid any likir approved foal for Specs. If cl manually, the monitor temp each batch by sous vide tap
Chilling	CCP # 2	<b>Vegetative Bacteria:</b> Listeria Monocytogenes, Campylobacter Jejuni, Yersinia Enterocolitica, Salmonella <b>Spore Forming/Toxin Producing Bacteria:</b> Bacillus Cereus, Clostridium Perfringens, Staphylococcus Aureus, Clostridium Botulinum <b>Fecal/OralRoute Hazards:</b> Escherichia Coli O157:H7, ShigellaSPP <b>Viruses:</b> Norovirus, Hepatitis A <b>Parasites:</b> Trichinella <b>Chemical Hazards:</b> Naturally Occurring Chemical Toxins: Additives etc	After cooking all proteins to the desire core temperature and time. Chill down each bags immediately in a bath of ice and water 33.8 F. The final Core temperature of 41.0 F should be reach following the FDA requirement : 135 F - 70 F in 2 hours 70 F - 41 F within additional 4 hours (not to exceed 6 hours) Cool to 34F within 48 hours of reaching 41F	Food Prepare temperatures record in elec Temperature (BLUETHERM) Hypodermic r the thickest p able to check during the all process. To se the bag and a use a FDA app Appendix for manually tem checked at le: hour, and eve

APPROVED

# Verify Knowledge/ Training



- When is the best time to verify knowledge/training?
- Observe processing
  - Following described procedures
- Ask questions throughout field verification/inspection
  - Open ended questions
    - Critical limits
    - Monitoring procedures
- Training Records



# Ingredients

## BEEF

- Black Angus Choice Fillet 8 oz.
- Black Angus Choice Fillet 9 oz.
- Black Angus Choice Fillet 12 oz.
- Black Angus Choice Fillet 20 oz.
- Choice New York 12 oz.
- Prime Block Cut Sirloin 6 oz.
- Prime Rib-eye 20-22 oz.
- Tender Chuck Roll LB
- Prime Porterhouse 40 oz.
- Steak Ends LB
- Triangles LB
- Tenderloin Tips LB

## PORK

- Chop 14 oz.

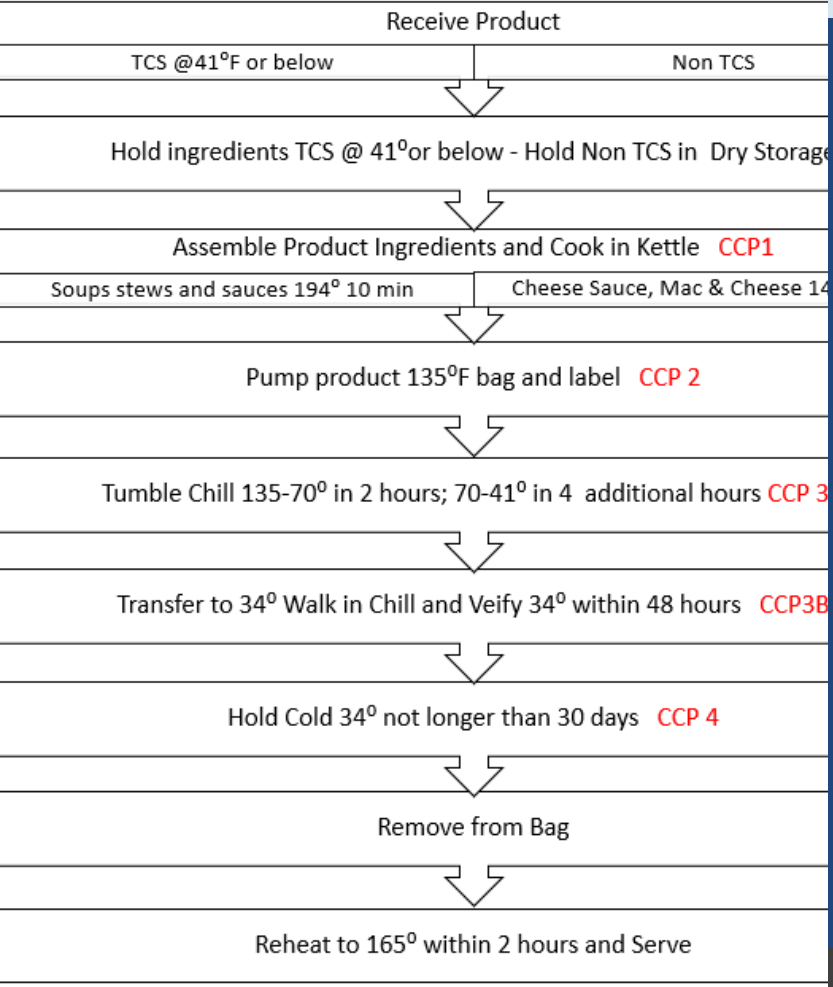
## CHICKEN

- Breast Sliced LB



# Verify Product Description

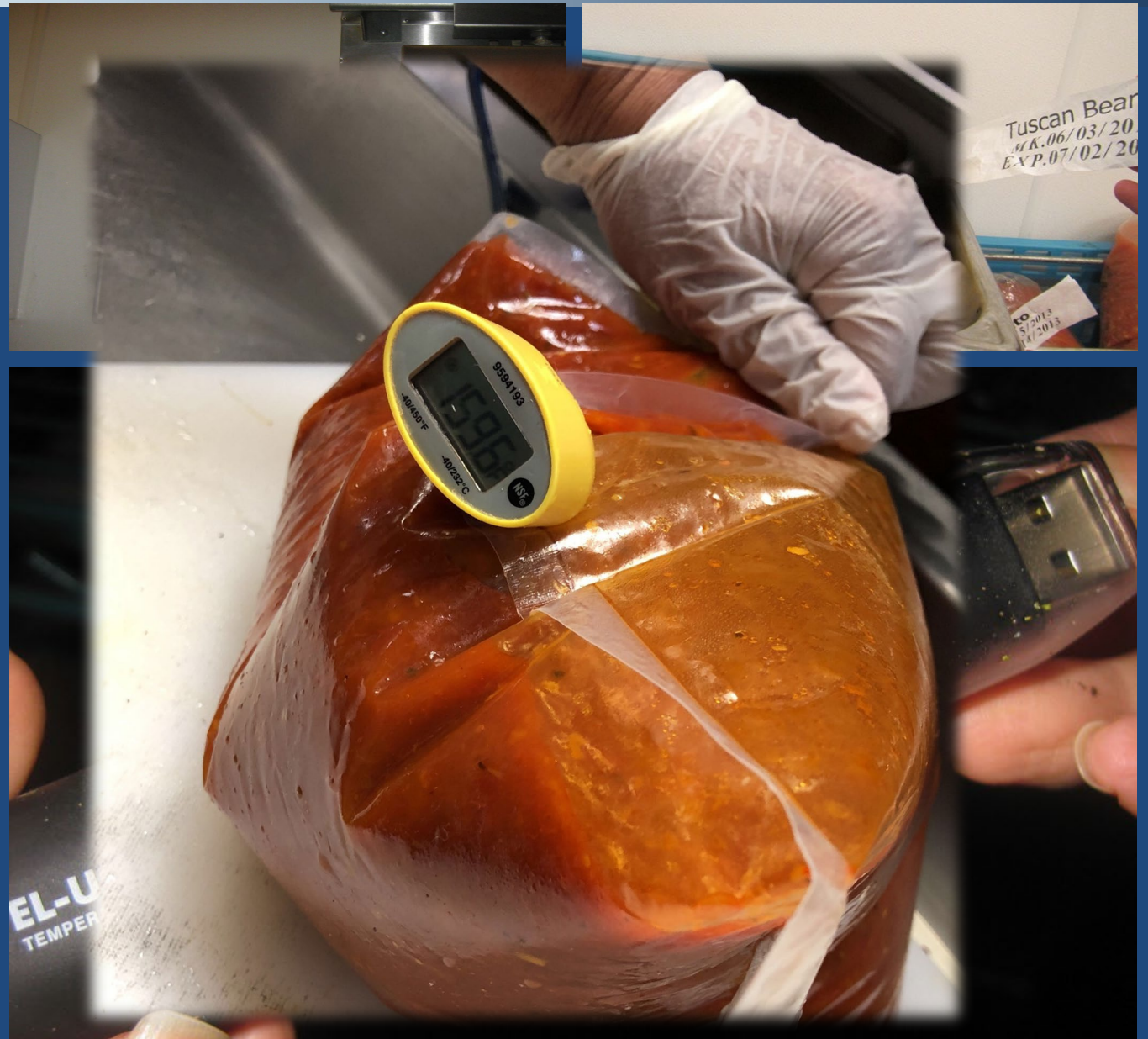
HACCP FLOW CHART Soups Stews Sauces, Pumpable Protein



**Verify Process Flow**

# Verify Critical Limits are met

- Specified in the plan





# Verify Monitoring Procedures

- What
- How
- Frequency

# Verify Immediate Corrective Action

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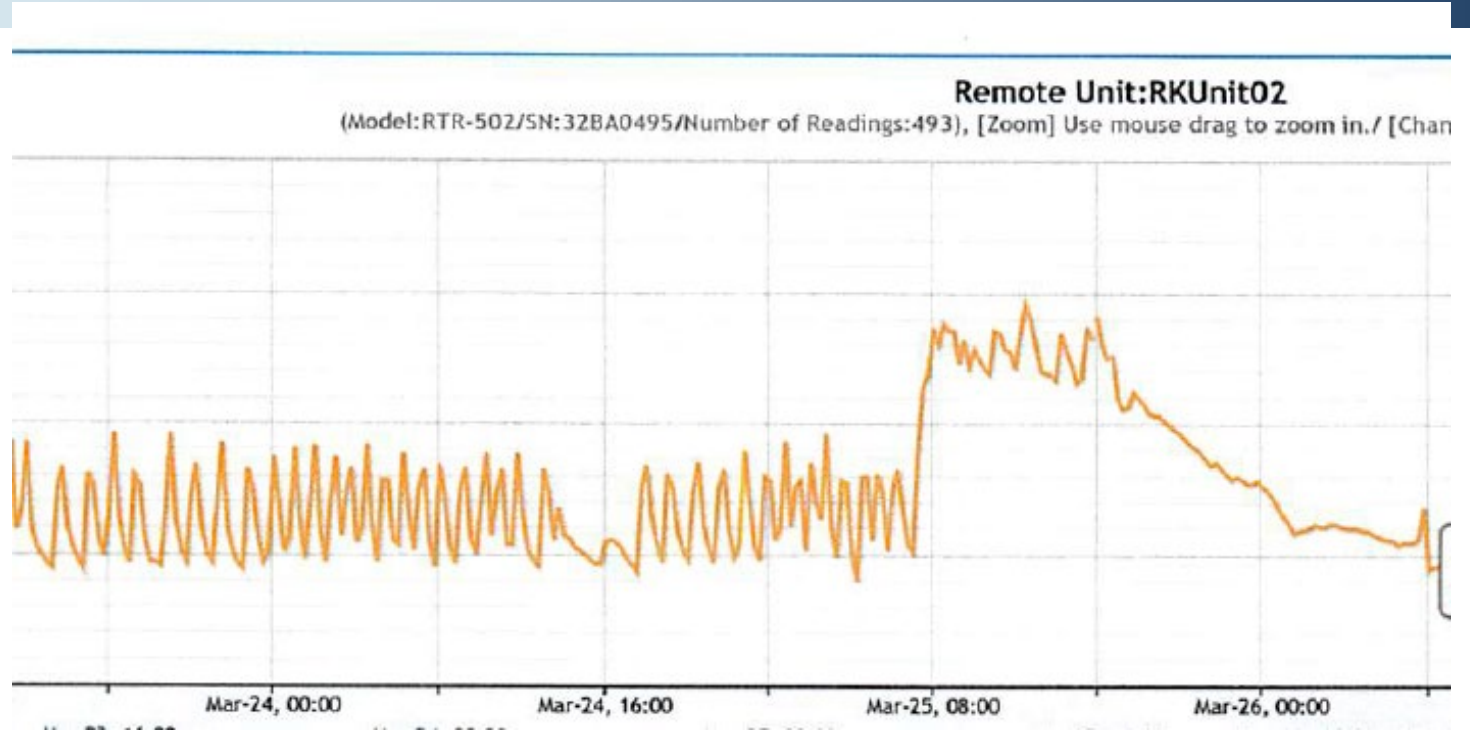
- **Verify that the written Corrective Actions are followed for out of compliance issues**



# Long Term Corrective Action

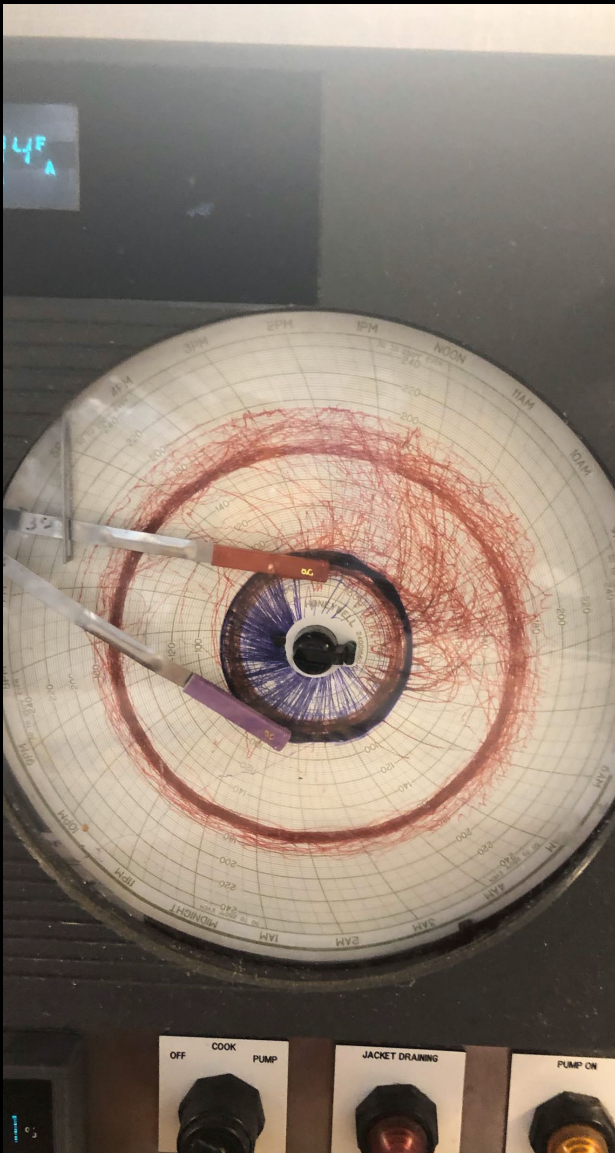
When should the HACCP approval be revoked?

Level of Non-compliance	Corrective Action
Missed Critical Limit	Immediate correction, including discarding of food if justified, follow up within 10 days to ensure continuing compliance
Missed monitoring of critical limit	Immediate correction, have employees begin monitoring during visit, follow-up within 10 days to ensure continuing compliance
Other areas of non-compliance	Follow-up within 30 days to make sure either the plan has been changed or procedure has changed



## Verify Record Keeping and Person in Charge Verification

- Documentation
  - HACCP Plan and approval
  - Records
    - CCPs
  - Corrective actions
  - Prerequisites (e.g., calibration records)



# Verify Record Keeping and Person in Charge Verification

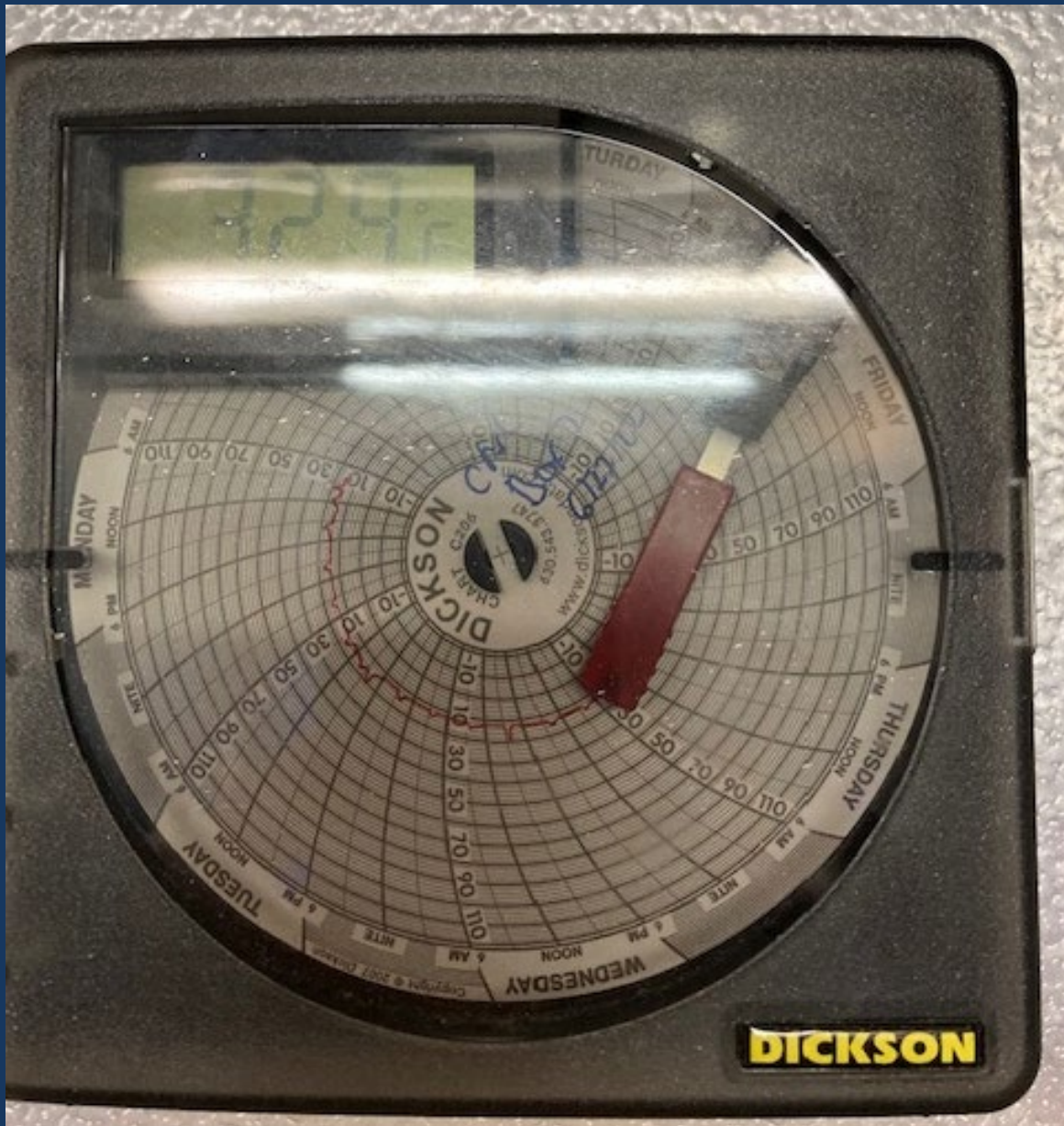
- Records complete?
  - Monitoring
  - Corrective actions
  - Verification
- Min of 3 batches/products
  
- Record maintained per plan?

HACCP COMPARISON REFRIGERATION TEMP

7/1 2016 LOCATION: CNC Don

SON	AIR TEMP	TIME	DICKSON TEMP	AIR TEMP	TIME	CO AC
	31	6m				
	32	6m	31	33	2p	
	31	6m	30	32	2p	
	31	6m	31	33	2p	
	32	6m	31	33	2p	
ANGE DICKSON TEMPERATURE CHART						
	32	6m	32	34	2p	
	32	6m	30	32	2p	
	32	6m	31	32	2p	
	31	5:40	30	31	2p	
ANGE DICKSON TEMPERATURE CHART						
ANGE DICKSON TEMPERATURE CHART						





# Verify Record Keeping and Person in Charge Verification

- Are the records accurate/realistic

PREP ITEM	RECORD FINAL COOKING TEMPERATURE			RECORD TIME/TEMP AFTER 1 HOUR			RECORD TIME/TEMP REACHES 70°F			AFTER TEMP REACHES 70°F, CHECK AND RECORD TIME/TEMP REACHES 41°F			CORRECTIVE ACTION	INIT
	TIME	TEMP	INIT	TIME	TEMP	INIT	TIME	TEMP	INIT	TIME	TEMP	INIT		
chicken	11:50	175	295	12:50	65	295	1:50	38	295				N/A	23
potatoes	9:10	189	191							9:25	39.8		N/A	23
potatoes	9:46	190	191							9:58	39.1		N/A	23
potatoes	10:18	191	191							10:36	38.6		N/A	23
potatoes	10:30	189	192							10:50	39.1		N/A	23

# Verify Prerequisites

- Proper calibration of equipment
  - Method
  - Frequency
  - Documentation
- Other Prerequisites



*Any Questions*

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