

Case Study



- ✓ **IMMEDIATE FEEDBACK** on food safety audit data
- ✓ **\$150,000-\$200,000 IN SAVINGS** per year

“PRODUCT QUALITY and FOOD SAFETY are THE critical issues in the food processing industry. Obtaining immediate access and feedback to audited data and reports keeps us on top of all quality and safety related issues.”

Dennis Schminke
Senior Business Analyst, Hormel Foods Corporation

HORMEL—A NAME YOU CAN TRUST

Hormel Foods is an international marketer of high-quality, value-added food products, and is home to some of the most trusted brand names in the food industry. Hormel takes product quality and food safety seriously, and is always looking for better methods to ensure the quality and safety of its food products. Hormel’s commitment to excellence led them to Steton Technology Group—the leader in mobile auditing and automated quality control technology.

\$150,000-200,000 IN SAVINGS A YEAR

In addition to improving the speed of collection and usability of data gathered during the auditing process, Hormel has discovered another benefit—significant cost savings! Hormel is in the beginning stages of implementation of the Steton Quality Suite[®], but they are already expecting tremendous savings in their auditing processes. According to Schminke, *“The Steton Quality Suite[®] is much less costly than manual paper audits. We estimate that automating the reports will save us 1/2 to one full-time person at each of the 13 facilities we audit. We expect \$150,000-\$200,000 annual savings.”*

FLEXIBLE CONFIGURATION LEADS TO MORE SAVINGS

Hormel spent months researching different companies with automated data collection and reporting systems. Resha Hovde, a Quality and Process Specification Coordinator for Hormel,

states, *“Many companies we looked at had canned audit forms that required us to pay someone else to create or change them. We knew we would have thousands of forms, and this would be very costly if we couldn’t change them on our own.”*

Schminke also reported the value of forms flexibility, *“The ability to create and maintain our own forms was a major advantage that we saw in the Steton solution,”* stated Schminke. *“We knew that we would need thousands of forms. Having the ability to maintain them in house was important to us. Many vendors were quoting costs of several hundred dollars per form to create or change.”*

EASY TO IMPLEMENT & USE

“The installation and training process went smoothly,” according to Schminke. *“We sent five people to training--one time. We haven’t needed any more training since. We’ve found that our auditors can pick up the software and use it quite easily.”*

INSTANT REPORTS

Like many companies, Hormel utilized the paper and pencil method of quality control data collection. According to Schminke, this posed problems. *“With paper-based audits, management did not have access to summarized audit data for as much as a week a week after the audit was performed.”* With Steton Quality Suite[®], when the auditing is done, the reports are ready.

ESSENTIAL FOR MANUFACTURERS

“Any manufacturer, especially food related products, would benefit greatly from a system like the Steton Quality Suite[®],” stated Schminke. *“With the increasing regulations in the food industry, this type of solution is essential.”*

For details on what Steton can do for you, visit www.steton.com or call (435) 656-5655.