

Food Safety Modernization ACT (FSMA)



Primary casualty

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About Markel’s Risk Solution Services team

Risk Solution Services provides technical insight related to existing and potential insured risk at Markel. The team partners with our customers, claims, and underwriters to educate on both current and future risk trends and supports our clients with a comprehensive offering of risk management solutions.

We do this by engaging with clients, underwriting, and claims teams.

E-mail our team at risksolutions@markel.com.



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What is the FSMA?

The FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) was the most sweeping reform of the US food safety laws in more than 70 years. It was signed into law on January 4, 2011 with the intention of ensuring the US food supply is safe by shifting the focus from responding to contamination to preventing it.

About 48 million people (1 in 6 Americans) get sick, 128,000 are hospitalized, and 3,000 die each year from foodborne diseases, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This is a significant public health burden that is largely preventable.

FSMA enabled the FDA to better protect public health by strengthening the food safety system enabling the FDA to focus more on prevention rather than on reaction. The law provided new enforcement authorities designed to achieve higher rates of compliance with prevention and risk based food safety standards and to better respond to and contain problems when they do occur. It gave the FDA tools to hold imported foods to the same standards as domestic foods. And it directed FDA to build an integrated national food safety system in partnership with state and local authorities.

Some parts of the FSMA went into effect quickly, such as FDA's new authority to order companies to recall food others required FDA to prepare and issue regulations and guidance documents on a predetermined time schedule.



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