

NSF International

A Global Leader in Public Health and
Environmental Protection

October 17, 2012

Presented to
Biopolymers Symposium



NSF International

NSF International is an independent, not-for-profit non governmental organization



NSF's primary business activities are:

- **Developing national voluntary consensus standards that enhance public health and safety.**
- **Providing product assessment and certification services to manufacturers primarily in industries related to food water, and the environment.**
- **Providing management systems registration.**
- **Providing testing and auditing services.**
- **Providing training and education services.**



NSF Sustainability

NSF's goal in sustainability is to provide credible, transparent methods, criteria and assessments that create stakeholder value, and that further support our mission to protect and improve human health.



Delivering a Variety of Credible Brands



CLEANGREDIENTS



Partnership with Biodegradable Products Institute

- **Management of BPI/USCC compostable label program**
 - Launched in January of 2012
- **Resource support for continued growth and expansion of the program**
 - Technical reviews
 - Project management
 - Field audit and investigation
 - Laboratory testing and qualification
 - International accreditations; laboratory and third-party product certification



NSF International Accreditations and Certifications Include



U.S.



Canada



Europe



**Guide 65
Guide 17025**



Universal Scheme of Certification

- **Same process used in every developed country around the world**
- **“Third-Party Certification” is governed by ISO Standards**
 - Testing to recognized standards;
 - Auditing of manufacturer’s facilities; and
 - Ongoing surveillance, such as routine testing and facility audits



Compliance/Uniformity/Accountability

- **Assessment & Certification ensures:**
 - Product is in compliance with the relevant standards for the product/technology.
 - Consistent, factual labeling and marketing of claims.
 - Evaluation is performed by credible, competent, independent organizations.
 - Product evaluated is representative of product released to the market, as demonstrated through surveillance.
 - Manufacturer is held accountable for compliance of all certified product released to the market.



Single Universal Standard and Label?

- **Drivers to uniformity:**
 - Consistent methods of test; one generally accepted standard
 - Accreditation of laboratories; broad data acceptance
 - Accreditation of third-party certifier; broad acceptance of independence, documentation, competency, and procedures
- **Creates the opportunity for reciprocity, eliminating redundancies**
 - Decision of individual certifiers; govern their own mark/brand
 - Cost and compliance challenge for industry minimized, but not eliminated
 - Potential for buyer confusion if multiple certifications in the same market
 - May not achieve consistent labeling and marketing of claims
 - Consumer awareness is increasing

