



Smithfield Installs FreshLoc for Quality Control

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Smithfield Quality in Batch Process

Dallas, July 29, 2005 - Smithfield, the world's largest producer of pork products, adds FreshLoc Batch Processing. Their plant in Wilson, North Carolina recently implemented FreshLoc Batch Processing, and the Distribution Center in Clayton was outfitted with FreshLoc facility monitoring.

The Wilson plant employs over 500 people, turning out over 3 million pounds of bacon every week. Marty Triplett, the quality assurance manager, believes strongly that quality is everyone's job. His rigorous program includes a Certified Packer Program, an agreement which every employee on the packing line signs, accepting responsibility for the safety and quality of final product leaving the plant.

Triplett likes the depth of data in FreshLoc's Batch Process product, which enables plant managers and authorized personnel to load time and temperature parameters at the start of each batch, then monitor that unique batch as it travels down the line. If a temperature goes too high for too long, or cool down takes too long, alerts are sent. The progress of the batch can be checked at any time, remotely. And of course, a record is then available for that batch of time and temperatures for Critical Control Points.

Smithfield's distribution plant in Clayton has over 500,000 square feet of space monitored by FreshLoc. Sensors in each unique climate area report continuously, and again, alerts are sent when temperatures get out of range.

As a major player in the meat industry, Smithfield is extremely aware of quality and safety issues, constantly seeking solutions such as FreshLoc, to help automate and organize data gathering from their processes. The high standards maintained by the company are proof that their attention to quality has paid off.

About Smithfield

Based in Smithfield, Virginia, Smithfield Foods is the world's largest pork processor and hog producer, with revenues exceeding \$11 billion in fiscal 2006. The company raises 14 million hogs domestically each year for a 13 percent U.S. market share, and annually processes 27 million hogs, representing 26 percent of the U.S. market. With a large collection of well-known brands, approximately half the company's pork revenues come from value-added, further processed products.

Smithfield is also the fifth-largest U.S. beef processor and a 50 percent partner to the largest cattle feeder in the United States. The company processes approximately two million cattle annually, which represents a six percent share of the U.S. market.