Lab/Program Success Stories
Case Study - Successful Collaboration and Innovative Approaches

Virginia Inspection Program Reporting System (VIPRS)

Sample Module
Overview of VIPRS

- Developed In-House after a disastrous attempt to use a purchased software application.
- Multiple modules planned to meet all of our program’s inspection reporting needs.
- Completed modules: Firms, Inspections, and Lab Samples
- Firms and Inspections Modules were implemented in early 2014
- Lab Samples Module was implemented early 2016
The Sample Module

![Sample Module Image]

**FOOD SAFETY**

Welcome: HTJ75050 Lisa Ramsey | Help | Admin | Logout

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### Lab Samples

#### Search Samples for:
- Search All
- Contains
- Collection Date Range:

#### Filter Results by:
- Collected By
- Any Sample Type
- 10 rows/page

#### Table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Edit</th>
<th>Sample#</th>
<th>Inspection#</th>
<th>Firm Id</th>
<th>Collected By</th>
<th>Collection Date</th>
<th>Sample Type</th>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Firm Name</th>
<th>Submitted Date</th>
<th>Results Date</th>
<th>Reviewed Date</th>
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<td>Ato G</td>
<td>01/17/2017</td>
<td>PESTICIDE</td>
<td>Peru Mango</td>
<td>Americana Grocery</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Sample Module

- Samples are added to an inspection in the Inspections Module
- All samples are linked to an Inspection or VISIT
- Sample numbers are generated by the VIPRS software, which is programmed to generate each number only once.
- Sample numbers are generated in advance, in batches. They are printed as bar code numbers on moisture resistant labels and sent to the inspectors from the Regional offices.
- A unique bar code sample number is applied to each sample during collection, then a hand held bar code scanner is used to add that number to the appropriate fields in the sample module and on the Chain of Custody form (if one is required).
Equipment used with the Sample Module

PRINTS BAR CODES
Adding a Sample to an Inspection

If a sample is collected, the input of sample information is initiated from the inspection screen. Samples are tied to firm inspections.
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Adding a Sample
After the sample is created, the inspector clicks on “Cancel/Go Back to Inspection” to complete the inspection, obtain the signatures, etc. The sample report can be completed when the inspector is ready.
Filling out the Remainder of the Sample Information

**Sample Information**
- Firm: Walmart Supercenter #2781 (ID: 2650800)  
- Business: Retail Food Store
- Inspection Id: 54201
- Inspection Type: Retail Food
- Sample Number: 987656788
- Commodity: Apples

**Add/Edit Sample Information**
- Sample Number: 987656788
- Outbreak Number: 
- FDA Product Code: 
- Human Illness: [ ] Y [ ] N [ ] Unknown
- Customer Notes: 
- Identification: 
- Lot/Production Code: 
- Is the Product Imported? [ ] Yes [ ] No
- Reason for Sample Collection: 
- Sample Location: 
- Sample Consisted Of: 
- Method of Collection: 
- Packaged Product?: [ ] Yes [ ] No
- Prepared in the following manner: Placed in a poly VDACS sampling bag and officially sealed and identified
Adding the Test Request

Once all of the information is filled out you will need to add the requested sample service by selecting “Add” and choosing the test from the drop down menu.
Submitting the Sample and Shipping to the lab (DCLS)

After the test request is created, the user is taken back to the sample screen where the sample can be submitted. Clicking on Submit Sample sends the information through the system to DCLS electronically. Samples are sent through VIPRS to the lab at 12 pm and 12 am.

Once the sample is submitted the user creates a Manifest to be shipped with the sample(s).
Submitting the Sample and Shipping to DCLS

The sample manifest, and if needed a Chain of Custody form, are the only pieces of paperwork shipped with the samples to the lab. Bar codes on manifest match bar codes on sample number labels.

The collection report is transmitted electronically.
A few of the Benefits and Challenges

• Reduced paperwork! Increased efficiency!
• Sample information is fully integrated, associated with the firm, the inspection, and also with other related samples.
• Sample numbers are always unique and not accidentally duplicated.
• Sample information is transmitted electronically to the lab, and results reported back to us electronically.
• Use of the barcode scanner helps prevent incorrect sample number entries on the collection report and the Chain of Custody
• We have no “off-line” client for our VIPRS software, so if there is no connectivity at the firm, a back-up paper system for the sample collection report must be used.
Developing this system took many of hours of work between our Food Safety Program management, the lab folks, and both our program’s IT departments. The end result of all that work is an electronic system for sample information that works for our Food Safety Program.

The success of our sample program also depends on our continued excellent relationship with our lab – the Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services (DCLS).
Questions?