



# Chicago Section IFT the First Section



## January 2013 Meeting Recap

When Great Leaders Loose Their Way: Mark Whitacre, Ph.D. COO and President of Cypress Systems

Selenium, Enhancing Immune Activity:

I was a pleasure to see everyone at the Chicago Section IFT January meeting. It was a packed house of over 155 people. It was truly an honor to have Mark Whitacre, Ph.D. COO and President of Cypress Systems as our guest speaker for the dinner meeting held at Rosewood Restaurant in Rosemont, IL. We have received dozens of positive responses to his speech on how he captivated our audience as they were on the edge of their seat waiting for the next detail.

He mesmerized the crowd with his life story and details on the ADM price fixing scandal from the early 1990's. He painted a vibrant picture of his life as an FBI informant and the challenges that go along with it – all while being a leader of a fortune 500 company as well as father and husband. He showed how he got so caught up in greed and how that same greed was his biggest downfall. It is truly remarkable to see how Mark has transformed his life since those years at ADM. And it was a big reminder to us how easy it is to lose our way in the business world.

Mark also introduced us to his current involvement with Cypress Systems and Selenium. Through Cypress Systems he now is able to get a second chance to make a positive impact in the food industry. He educated the audience on cancer preventative measures we can take with healthy lifestyles and Selenium. He also showed how Selenium plays an important role in our bodies' natural defense against free radicals. His information was backed by clinical trials by the National Cancer Institute.

It was eye opening to see how Selenium use can result in a 50-63% reduction in colon, lung, and prostate cancers. He went on to show how Selenium promotes immune health and anti aging.

What a fantastic way to kick off the New Year!! I look forward to seeing everyone at the February dinner meeting.

*John Chambers  
Program Committee Chair, and Chair Elect CSIFT  
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