



Chicago Section IFT  
the First Section



## February 2013 Meeting Recap

---

Safety, Security, Sustainability, Connectivity: Matt Botos CEO, ConnectFood

I was a pleasure to see everyone at the Chicago Section IFT February meeting. It was a packed house of over 100 people. It was a pleasure to have Matt Botos the CEO of ConnectFood as our guest speaker for the dinner meeting held at Kendall College in Chicago, IL.

Matt educated us on the updated Food Safety Modernization Act. He pointed out that the FSMA enables FDA to better protect public health by strengthening the food safety system and how it enables FDA to focus more on preventing food safety problems rather than relying primarily on reacting to problems after they occur.

He highlighted how FSMA builds a formal system of collaboration with other government agencies, both domestic and foreign. In doing so, the statute explicitly recognizes that all food safety agencies need to work together in an integrated way to achieve our public health goals.

With that said we have a long way to go in this process but we are on the right track. Through safety, security, and sustainability as an overall concept we know how to make our food supply from farm to fork efficient and economical with a focus on the environment for the farmer, manufacturer and the consumer.

Matt also introduced us and gave background info on his company ConnectFood ([www.connectfood.com](http://www.connectfood.com)) and how they can be a resource for our industry. He pointed out how ConnectFood can be The "Farm-to-Fork" knowledge exchange platform for food industry professionals to connect a vast wealth of knowledge, expertise and experience.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the March dinner meeting which is Student Night. Be sure to come out and support the future of the CSIFT!!

### March Event

---

Topic: History of Griffith Laboratories and their Commitment to Innovation

- Global trends and its impact today on innovation
- Responding to the needs of the market and our responsibilities aligned with global technical citizenship

*Speaker: Chris Carr - VP Marketing & Global Communication*

Date: 11-March-2013

Location: Chateau del Mar in Hickory Hills, IL

*John Chambers*

*Program Committee Chair and Chair Elect CSIFT*