2027 Food Safety Leadership Award

Criteria for Nominations

In odd years, the winning group will be selected from an IDFA member company that processes, manufactures, markets, or distributes dairy products; a supplier that supports the food safety efforts of dairy processors in North America; or an IDFA-organized group of volunteers, such as a committee, task force or working group.

There is no fee to enter this nomination. Applications should be typed and must be received by the International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) by
Friday, October 2, 2026.

The winner will either be: i) an IDFA member company that processes, manufactures, markets or distributes dairy products in North America; ii) a group or organization within such company; or iii) an IDFA-organized group of volunteers (e.g., a committee, task force or working group) where member company employees make up a majority of the group. The company or group will have demonstrated outstanding leadership toward enhancing food safety within the dairy products industry.

Company/Organization/Group Name:

Names and Position of Company/Organization/Group Members:

Street Address:

City/State/Zip:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

General Qualifications and Criteria for Nominees

The winner will be an employee of an IDFA member company that processes, manufactures, markets, or distributes dairy products; or a supplier company that supports the food safety efforts of dairy processors in North America. The winning individual must demonstrate outstanding leadership and contributions to the field of food safety for the dairy foods industry.

Previous recipients are not eligible to be nominated.

Those nominating are expected to provide the following package of materials for consideration as an attachment to this nomination form:

1. **Nomination cover letter:** Submit a cover letter that includes a summary of the achievements, along with the name of the company or group and the names and titles of all individuals who contributed to the overall success of the team. Groups may nominate themselves, or nominations may be prepared and submitted by others.

2. **Food safety leadership achievements:** List specific activities and outcomes achieved during the past two years that would be considered significant food safety leadership achievements or accomplishments, such as developing a process or procedure that increased food safety; initiating and/or participating in the development and/or implementation of new food safety guidance and/or training for the industry; conducting research that made a specific contribution to food safety; and writing or co-authoring papers that were published in recognized peer-reviewed journals or magazines.

3. **Originality of work:** Describe the originality, creativity and quality of the contribution and note the significance and importance of the contribution to the industry. Provide documentation that supports the effectiveness of the effort.

4. **Peer assessment of nominee:** Provide at least two and no more than three letters of support from professional peers.

5. **Additional points to consider under the criteria for evaluating nominee:** Other activities that are not specifically covered above may be provided to emphasize the nominee's leadership and dedication to food safety.

Nominations should be sent to Sam Alcaine at salcaine@idfa.org