

## VILLAGE FARMS

### TraQtion Helps Greenhouse Producer Manage Supplier Compliance to the FDA FSVP and Multiple Buyer Secondary Requirements



Village Farms is one of North America's largest producers, marketers and distributors of greenhouse-grown tomatoes, bell peppers and cucumbers in North America. With over 100 supplemental suppliers delivering to 20+ retailers, Village Farms turned to TraQtion for a software solution that can help them with their challenges.

**TraQtion gave us everything we were looking for and we didn't have to compromise anywhere.**

Michael Bledsoe, Ph.D., Village Farms Senior Vice President of Food Safety and Scientific & Regulatory Affairs

#### THE CHALLENGE:

Village Farms had two main needs:

- > Quickly determine which supplier best matches specific retailer secondary requirements in real time
- > Ensure supplier compliance with the proposed FSMA rule on Foreign Supplier Verification Programs (FSVP)

**Our old system relied too much on constant input, and was based on individuals' availability and expertise. It was hard to find the data we needed and we didn't automatically know when any certifications were close to expiring.**

Michael Bledsoe, Ph.D.

Village Farms also needed this supplier management solution to:

- > Provide a centralized, reliable and easy-to-use system
- > Support business decision making
- > Act as the central database of FDA and retailer supplier requirements
- > Provide intuitive dashboards that shows supplier compliance to retailer guidelines

#### THE SOLUTION:

TraQtion provided Village Farms with:

- > Efficient supplier compliance tracking:
  - Automatic enforcement of multiple retailer and Village Farms requirements of suppliers on a realtime basis with the TraQtion compliance engine
  - Online access for suppliers to submit documents and answer risk assessment questionnaires



- Easy red/amber/green visual indicators or status for each supplier against each retailer secondary requirements
- Automated emails and alerts to supplier with expiring certifications and non-compliant suppliers
- Easy access to all users to instantly find the supplier compliance status

Dashboards and reports:

- Easy-to-read supplier status for each retailer
- Reports to ensure the entire supply chain is compliant with the requirements
- Demonstrated as an significant aid to compliance with the proposed FSMA rule on foreign supplier verification programs

**TraQtion does what it previously took four people individually updating reports to do. With TraQtion, we can answer questions instantly rather than going through sheets of data. It saves us time and has provided 100 percent return on investment.**

Michael Bledsoe, Ph.D.

## THE RESULTS:

TraQtion has provided these results for Village Farms:

### **Accurate, up-to-date and centralized supplier information**

“With TraQtion, we can answer questions instantly rather than going through sheets of data. It saves us time and has been provided 100 percent return on investment.”

Michael Bledsoe, Ph.D.



**TraQtion has a very strong support team and did a really good job on site, implementing the software and going to facilities to train staff. TraQtion has been very supportive, during and after the launch. If requirements change, it only takes one email to make the update, usually within 24 hours.**

Michael Bledsoe, Ph.D.

### **Reduced time and increased accuracy**

“In staging a mock recall for a client, it only took us 30 minutes to pull supplier information that would previously have taken us three days to compile.”

Michael Bledsoe, Ph.D.

### **Reduced labor costs in managing supplier information and follow-ups**

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Michael Bledsoe, Ph.D.

For details about how the TraQtion software solution can benefit your business, email [info@traqtion.com](mailto:info@traqtion.com), call + **1 888.943.0277** or visit [www.TraQtion.com](http://www.TraQtion.com).



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