

SUBJECT: ALFOODACT 033-2007 New Jersey Firm Recalls Ground Beef Products For Possible E. coli O157:H7 Contamination

Date Issued: September 26, 2007

1. REFERENCES:

- a. DLAR 4155.26/AR 40-660/NAVSUPINST 10110.8c/AFI 48-116/MCO 10110.38c, DOD Hazardous Food & Nonprescription Drug Recall System.
- b. Allied Communications Publication 121, US SUPP-1 (f).
- c. http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_040_2007_Release/index.asp

2. BACKGROUND:

Topps Meat Company, LLC is voluntarily recalling approximately 331,582 pounds of frozen ground beef products because they may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7. An investigation into a cluster of illnesses in the Northeast region carried out by the New York State Department of Health in coordination with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention led to a positive product sample collected by the New York Department of Health.

3. PRODUCTION DATES/IDENTIFYING CODES:

Topps label can be viewed at the following link: <http://www.toppsmeat.com/retail/hamburgers.html>

- USDA Establishment Number 9748
- 10-pound boxes of "BUTCHER'S BEST 100% ALL BEEF PATTIES 75/25, 6 OZ. FLAT, 27 PIECES." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "BUTCHER'S BEST 100% ALL BEEF PATTIES 75/25, 4 OZ. (4-1), 40 PIECES." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "KOHLER FOODS 4 OZ. FLAT HAMBURGER, CODE: 60100, 40 PCS." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "KOHLER FOODS 6 OZ. FLAT HAMBURGER, CODE: 60200, 27 PCS." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "KOHLER FOODS 8 OZ. FLAT HAMBURGER, CODE: 60300, 20 PCS." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "SAND CASTLE FINE MEAT, 100% PREMIUM BEEF HAMBURGERS 80/20, 8 OZ. FLAT, 20 COUNT." Each box bears a packed-on date of "JUN 22 07."
- 10-pound boxes of "SAND CASTLE FINE MEAT, 100% PREMIUM BEEF HAMBURGERS 85/15, 6 OZ. FLAT, 27 COUNT." Each box bears a packed-on date of "JUN 22 07."
- 2-pound boxes of "Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers, 8 Quarter Pounds." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 12 08."
- 2-pound boxes of "Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers, 3 OZ., 10 COUNT." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 12 08."
- 3-pound boxes of "Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers, 6 OZ. PUB Burgers." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08."
- 3-pound boxes of "Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers, 12 Quarter Pounds." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08," "JUL 12 08" or "JUL 23 08."
- 3-pound boxes of "Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers, 16 Hamburgers." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."

- 5-pound boxes of "Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers, 20 Quarter Pounders." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08," "JUL 12 08" or "JUL 23 08."
- 8-pound boxes of "Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers, 32 Quarter Pounders." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "Topps 100% PREMIUM HAMBURGERS 5 OZ. (1/2)". Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "Topps HAMBURGERS, 3.2 OZ, 50 COUNT." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 12 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "Topps 100% PREMIUM HAMBURGERS, 8 OZ. (Pub Burger)." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "Topps 100% PREMIUM HAMBURGERS, 4 OZ. (4-1) Homestyle." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "WESTSIDE, 100% PREMIUM HAMBURGER, 8 OZ FLAT, 20 COUNT." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "WESTSIDE, 100% PREMIUM HAMBURGER, 6 OZ FLAT, 27 COUNT." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08."
- 10-pound boxes of "WESTSIDE, 100% PREMIUM HAMBURGER, 5 OZ FLAT, 32 COUNT." Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08."

4. Manufacturer/Establishment Number:

Topps Meat Company, LLC,
P.O. Box 219 1161 E. Broad Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07207

ESTABLISHMENT NUMBER: 9748

5. DISTRIBUTION: Worldwide

6. REASON FOR RECALL: E. coli O157:H7

7. INSTRUCTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR MESSAGE RECIPIENTS:

a. Immediately inventory stocks to identify the above items and secure in a "Medical Hold" status to provide assurance of no further issue/sale/use of the item. POSITIVE FINDINGS should be reported to Accountable Officers/Vendor Representatives of that facility. Accountable Officer/Agency Representatives should seek refund/credit/replacement through the normal distribution channel with which the product was received (i.e. Distribution Centers, Prime Vendors, Manufacturers).

b. Ships at sea are authorized to destroy or dispose of recalled products at their discretion. Documentation for the number of pounds and cases, and any additional pertinent information must be signed by the Accountable Officer and is required for the purpose of recouping to the government the cost of the product involved. In order to get credit please use a SF 364 and forward to your supporting FISC and copy furnished to NAVSUP 51. Your supporting FISC should forward to the account manager at DSCP. The form should include the number of the recall authorizing the survey action. Home ported ships/gallies will utilize DD form 1149 to transfer w/ reimbursement to the PV. The PV will submit credit invoice to the account manager at DSCP.

c. Unless otherwise specified above, POSITIVE and NEGATIVE RESPONSES directly to DSCP Consumer Safety Officer (CSO) are NOT required.

d. When corresponding with DSCP concerning this message please include this message's subject in your subject line.

8. The Point of Contact for this ALFOODACT message is CW4 Ramona Hemphill, Consumer Safety Officer, at DSCP-FTW. VOICE, DSN: 444-2905, Commercial (215) 737-2905, or by FAX, DSN: 444-7526, or Commercial, (215) 737-7526

Any individual or office that would like to receive recall messages electronically can forward their email address to Ramona.Hemphill@dla.mil,

Previous recalls and frequently asked questions are available at the following web site:

<https://www.dscp.dla.mil/subs/fso/alfood/alfood.asp>

The navigation tool to the left allows you to view DSCP Alerts and Archived Vendor Recalls also.

Very Respectfully,

Mrs. Ramona Hemphill

CW4 Ramona Hemphill
Consumer Safety Officer, DSCP
Food Safety Office
DSN: 444-2905
Voice: (215) 737-2905
Fax: (215) 737-7526