

Subject: ALFOODACT 082-2009 Northern Star Co. Initiates Voluntary Recall of Retail Potato Products

Date Issued: February 23, 2009

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. AskKaren:
<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/food%5Fsafety%5Feducation/ask%5Fkaren/#Question>
- d. Listeria monocytogenes Fact Sheet: <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~mow/chap6.html>
- e. Michael's Foods Posting: <http://www.michaelfoods.com/news/newsview.cfm?PRKey=188>

2. BACKGROUND:

Northern Star Co. today initiated a voluntary product recall of certain retail cut-and-bagged potato products. The recall is being initiated due to laboratory testing that showed a package of Simply Potatoes Southwest Style Hash Browns to contain Listeria monocytogenes bacteria.

Northern Star Co. potato products are considered by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as a "not ready to eat" product, meaning that consumers must cook them properly to ensure they are safe to eat. Proper cooking of these products to an internal temperature of 160 degrees Fahrenheit for two minutes kills Listeria bacteria. However, consumers may return the product to the store where it was purchased for a full refund or replacement.

This recall affects only RETAIL products, NOT Northern Star Co. foodservice products.

3. PRODUCTION DATES/IDENTIFYING CODES:

The affected products include the following items, with "use by" dates on the package of March 29, 2009 to April 3, 2009:

Brand Product UPC Code

Simply Potatoes Shredded Hash Browns - 20 oz. bag 20169-22233

Simply Potatoes Southwest Style Hash Browns - 20 oz. bag 20169-22236

Simply Potatoes Homestyle Slices - 20 oz. bag 20169-22237

Simply Potatoes Red Potato Wedges - 20 oz. bag 20169-22238

Diners Choice Shredded Hash Browns - 2 lb. bag 20169-22223

Farm Fresh Shredded Hash Browns - 16 oz. bag 20169-22533

4. MANUFACTURER/DISTRIBUTOR:

Michael's Foods
Corporate Headquarters:
301 Carlson Parkway
Suite 400
Minnetonka, MN 55305

5. DISTRIBUTION: Nationwide

6. REASON FOR ACTION: Listeria monocytogenes

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. POSITIVE FINDINGS should be reported to the Contracting Officers or Accountable Officers/Vendor Representatives of that facility. Accountable Officer/Agency representatives/Buyers/Contracting Officers should seek refund/credit/replacement through the normal distribution channel with which the product was received (i.e. Distribution Centers, Prime Vendors, Manufacturers, etc.).

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. Except for Prime Vendors, POSITIVE and NEGATIVE RESPONSES directly to DSCP Consumer Safety Officer (CSO) are NOT required. Prime Vendors should report finding to their assigned Contracting Officer and courtesy copy the Consumer Safety Office (dscpconssafofc@dla.mil). Other agencies such as DeCA, AAFES, MWR, VA, MCCS, etc. should report NEGATIVE and POSITIVE responses to their agencies recall coordinator.

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: 444-2922, Commercial (215) 737-2922, 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 dscpconssafofc@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
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Food Safety Office
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