

DEFENSE DEPARTMENT OKS IRRADIATED MEAT, POULTRY FOR ARMED FORCES
November 6, 2001
Meating Place

Hoping to provide an additional layer of safety to the U.S. armed forces, the Defense Department has added irradiated ground beef and poultry products to its food procurement authorization lists.

San Diego-based SureBeam Corp. will provide the service using its electron beam food safety technology. The announcement came less than one week after the U.S. Postal Service contracted with the company to use irradiation technology to battle the anthrax threat in the mail.

Electron beam technology uses ordinary electricity as its energy source to eliminate food-borne bacteria, such as E. coli O157:H7, listeria, campylobacter and salmonella.

Food products are typically processed in their final packaging to prevent recontamination or cross contamination. The process also inhibits food spoilage caused by common bacteria, according to the company. Microbiological problems in food led to 129 product recalls last year, up 37 percent from 1999, according to the Food Industry Report published in May 2001. Military research diarrhea indicates that represents a common health threat to U.S. military forces, especially those deployed in developing countries.

List of local stock numbers developed to reflect pasteurization by radiation:

1 NOV 99

These items were established for, if and when, our respected customers may choose to try Irradiated meat products.

SUBJECT	E19	IRRADIATED MEAT PRODUCTS
8905-01-E19-4778		CHICKEN, CUT-UP, 8 PIECE, IRRADIATED, FZN, broiler or fryer, US Grade A, from 3-3.5 lb avg wt bird U/I – LB
8905-01-E19-4779		CHICKEN, QUARTERED, IRRADIATED, FZN, broiler or fryer, US Grade A, w/o neck and giblets, from 3-3.5 lb avg wt bird U/I – LB
8905-01-E19-4780		CHICKEN, QUARTERED, LEG/THIGH, IRRADIATED, FZN, broiler or fryer, US Grade A, from 3-3.5 lb avg wt bird U/I – LB

8905-01-E19-4781	CHICKEN, QUARTERED, BREAST/WING, IRRADIATED, FZN, broiler or fryer, US Grade A, from 3-3.5 lb avg wt bird U/I – LB
8905-01-E19-4782	BEEF, GRD, BULK, IRRADIATED, FZN, 80% lean, 10 lb pg U/I – LB
8905-01-E19-4783	BEEF, GRD, PATTIES, IRRADIATED, FZN, 80% lean, 4 oz ea, 10 lb box U/I – LB
8905-01-E19-4784	TURKEY BREAST, BONE-IN, RAW, IRRADIATED, FZN, 8-11 lb ea U/I – LB
8905-01-E19-4785	TURKEY LEGS, RAW, IRRADIATED, FZN, 16 oz avg U/I - LB