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Re: Americold and Food Traceability Rule 204

Dear Valued Customer,

Thank you for your continued partnership and attention to the FDA's Food Traceability Rule. While the original compliance date was **January 20, 2026**, the FDA announced an extension of **30 months** as of **March 20, 2025**, moving the new compliance date to **July 20, 2028**. That said, Americold is not waiting.

We are proactively applying the rule's traceability standards to **all products we handle**, not just those listed on the FDA's Food Traceability List. This decision reflects our deep commitment to food safety, transparency, and doing what's right for our customers and the communities we serve.

We are anticipating readiness to comply with the rule by end of Q4 2026. Following that, no later than Feb 1, 2027, we will expect the required FDA Traceability Rule information to accompany all inbound products shipped to Americold warehouses.

Americold is preparing to comply with this rule using the following data-transfer methods:

- EDI/ASN
- Email (Spreadsheet)
- Manual entry / Bills of Lading

For outbound shipments to food service and retail locations, data can be sent by Americold direct to the product owner, who can then assimilate and forward to their customers. Alternatively, we can also provide this information direct to the receiver of the goods.

On the attached Fact Sheet, you will find a brief description of the US FDA requirements along with Americold's plan for data formatting. Please review and let us know if you have any questions.

What is the purpose of FDA Rule 204 on Traceability: As a key component of FDA's New Era of Smarter Food Safety Blueprint, Rule 204 will allow for faster identification and rapid removal of potentially contaminated food from the market, resulting in fewer foodborne illnesses and/or deaths.

Compliance Date: July 20, 2028