Vice President of Produce Science and Safety

Mission
Responsible for science and safety issues for PMA and its members, and represents the association in regulatory, legislative, and scientific arenas.

Staff Relationships
Works under the general direction of the Vice President of Government Relations and Public Affairs. Interacts with Industry Standards and Technology team on science and safety issues.

Contacts
Has daily and significant contact with members, member task forces, nonmembers, U.S./state federal regulatory and legislative staff, science/safety staff of related trade associations, consumer and advocacy groups, coalition partners, and the trade and consumer media.

Responsibilities:

• Leads PMA’s produce science and safety efforts (including but not limited to: food safety, taste/flavor, nutrition, quality, biotechnology, innovations) (50%)
  
  o Anticipates, monitors, and evaluates impact of relevant new or revised food science/safety legislation, regulations, standards, self-regulatory programs on members and produce industry
  o Anticipates, monitors, and evaluates impact of relevant nonregulatory food science/safety issues on members and produce industry (e.g. biotechnology, irradiation)
  o Serves as key contact with U.S. federal regulatory agencies on produce science and safety
  o Serves on industry coalitions related to food science and safety
  o Communicates developments in produce science/safety to members (including presentations at PMA events) and media

• Creates member value through the government relations program (25%)
  o Develops member communications materials on food science/safety issues
  o Recommends new products, events, and services for members
  o Works closely with professional development, marketing, product development, and events to facilitate the development of products, events, and services related to food science and safety

• Directs member task forces/vendors on food safety/science (10%)

• Updates staff/volunteer leaders on key issues (5%)
  o Briefs the Board/leadership groups/President/Senior Management Team/staff as desired on key issues
Communicates positions to marketing and market managers
Ensures Information Center is kept up to date on relevant issues

- Maintains network of contacts in produce industry, food industry, scientific community, relevant government agencies, and other related nonprofits (5%)

- Maintains and advances professional competencies in association management, produce science/safety, government relations and advocacy, and the produce industry. (5%)

**Decision Making:**
- Develops appropriate positions on food science and safety issues
- Directs task forces, including selecting task force members
- Recommends resources (e.g. expert speakers) for products, events, services
- Vendor selection and management
- Assists with development and approval of budget and expenses
- Assists with development and execution of business plans

**Measures for Success**
- Increased member satisfaction, retention, revenue

**Selection Criteria:**
- Advanced degree (Ph.D. preferred) in microbiology, food science (with emphasis on microbiology), or other relevant food science field
- Ten years related experience
- Knowledge of produce industry preferred
- Expert knowledge of government processes, especially regulatory processes
- Extensive network among industry (produce and food science), regulatory officials; ability to locate and call in relevant experts as needed
- Knowledge of foodborne disease and foodborne disease epidemiology
- Expert communications and presentation skills, ability to identify and respond to emerging issues; ability to communicate scientific, research, or complex issues in lay terms to members and media
- Ability to deal with emergencies on both the technical and communications level
- Ability to develop and execute business plans consistent with PMA's organizational objectives
- Ability to contribute to increase revenue — new issues-focused product, service, event development and delivery
- Ability to increase volunteer involvement — task forces, work groups, etc.
- Frequent travel required
- Location flexible

**Last revision:** November 14, 2006