

FACTORY FARM OFFENDER

CARGILL INC.

Cargill Inc.
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Minneapolis, MN 55440
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Web Site: <http://www.cargill.com/>

CEO: Warren R. Staley, Age: N/A, Salary: N/A

COMPANIES (dba): Excel Corp., Cargill Value Added Meats, Cargill Processed Meat Production, Cargill Taylor Beef, Cargill Pork, Caprock Cattle Feeders, Cargill Turkey Products, Emmpak Foods.

FORTUNE 500 RANKING: N/A - Privately owned company (Cargill-MacMillan family)

ANNUAL REVENUE: \$71 billion

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES: 124,000

HEADQUARTERS: Minnetonka, Minnesota

LOCATIONS: There are over 800 operations in 59 countries around the world. U.S. locations include: Cargill Meat Solutions - Springdale, Arkansas; Newnan, Georgia; Dayton, Virginia; Cargill Taylor Beef - Wyalusing, Pennsylvania; Cargill Turkey Products - Dayton, Virginia; California, Missouri; Waco, Texas; Emmpak Foods - Booneville, Arkansas; Nebraska City, Nebraska; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Butler, Wisconsin; Excel - Beardstown, Illinois; Hazelton, Pennsylvania; Marshall, Missouri; Wichita, Kansas; Dodge City, Kansas; Ft Morgan, Colorado; Ottumwa, Iowa; Plainview, Texas; Friona, Texas; Schuyler, Nebraska

BRANDS/PRODUCTS: Angus Pride (beef), Excel Fresh Meats (beef, pork), HoneySuckle White (turkey), Prairie Grove Farms (pork), Shady Brook Farms (turkey), Sterling Silver (beef, pork), Taylor Beef (beef), Tender Choice (pork)

POLLUTION VIOLATIONS:

- **National** - In September 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Justice lodged a multi-state consent decree in federal court that settled Clean Air Act violations at 27 Cargill corn and oilseed processing plants. Cargill agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$1.6 million and to perform federal and community environmental projects valued at \$3.5 million.
- **Tulsa, OK** - In March 2003, Cargill and five other poultry companies settled a lawsuit filed by the city of Tulsa alleging that the companies were responsible for releasing an estimated 170 million pounds of poultry waste annually into the city's watershed.

- **Hinds County, MS** - On December 26, 2002, there was a civil complaint filed against Cargill (also Tyson Foods and Cal-Maine) in the Circuit Court of Hinds County, Mississippi, on behalf of plaintiffs, Hunter McWhorter, a young boy with cystic fibrosis, and Michael Green, who was diagnosed at 15 years of age with chronic myelogenous leukemia. Both conditions may be caused by fungus and arsenic found in chicken litter. Homes and schools in the area near the factory farms were tested for fungus and arsenic and found to have high levels of both. Residents were also found to have a high number of illnesses, which may be caused by fungus and arsenic. The suit alleges that the plaintiffs suffered severe medical conditions from living near land upon which chicken litter from factory farms was spread as "fertilizer."
- **Martinsburg, MO** - In February 2002, Cargill Pork Inc, operating a 17,000-pig factory farm, pleaded guilty to violating the Clean Water Act and agreed to pay more than \$1.5 million in fines and restitution. Cargill Pork admitted illegally discharging hog waste from holding ponds into a tributary of the Missouri River, which killed 53,000 fish along a five-mile stretch of the waterway.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY VIOLATIONS & LABOR STANDARDS VIOLATIONS:

The U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Health & Safety Administration (OSHA) assessed Cargill slaughter and processing operations and issued the following violations and fines between 2001 and 2006 for failing to provide employees with a safe work environment :

- **National** - Excel plants (Dodge City, Kansas; Ft Morgan, Colorado, Friona, Texas; Marshall, Missouri; Ottumwa, Iowa; Plainview, Texas; Schuyler, Nebraska) assessed a total of 67 initial violations and \$134,134 in initial fines.
- **National** - Emmpak plants (Booneville, Arkansas; Butler, Wisconsin; Milwaukee, Wisconsin) assessed a total of 28 initial violations and \$43,950 in initial fines.
- **Ozark, AR** - A Cargill Turkey Products plant assessed four initial violations and \$7,275 in initial fines.
- **Wyalusing, PA** - The Cargill Taylor Beef plant assessed two initial violations and \$1,500 in initial fines.

FOOD SAFETY VIOLATIONS:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety & Inspection Service (FSIS) took the following enforcement actions against Cargill slaughter and processing plants between 2001 and 2006 :

- **Friona, TX** - FSIS withheld the marks of inspection concerning labels for Advanced Meat Recovery (AMR) System on December 13, 2004. Plant received a Notice of Intended Enforcement for Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point System (HACCP) violations on August 19, 2003 (plant produced product testing positive for E coli 0157:H7).
- **Waco, TX** - Plant received a Notice of Intended Enforcement for HACCP violations on August 19, 2004.
- **Plainview, TX** - FSIS withheld the marks of inspection concerning labels for AMR on May 7, 2004 and October 27, 2004. Plant received a Suspension of Inspection for Sanitation Standard Operating Procedures (SSOP) violations from February 13 through 15, 2002.
- **Ft Morgan, CO** - Plant was issued a Withholding the Marks of Inspection concerning labels for AMR on April 21, June 11 and August 11, 2004.

- **Beardstown, IL** - Plant was issued a Notice of Intended Enforcement for SSOP, HACCP and Sanitation Performance Standards (SPS) violations on November 5, 2003.
- **Schulyer, NE** - Plant received a Notice of Intended Enforcement for HACCP violations on September 19, 2003.
- **Milwaukee, WI** - (dba Emmpak Foods) Plant received a Suspension of Inspection for HACCP violations from October 2 through October 30 2002 (plant produced product testing positive for E coli 0157:H7). Plant was also issued a Suspension of Inspection for SSOP & HACCP violations from October 18 through October 21, 2002.
- **Ottumwa, IA** - Plant received a Notice of Intended Enforcement for SSOP & HACCP violations on October 18, 2002.
- **Springdale, AR** - Plant received a Notice of Intended Enforcement for HACCP violations on June 18, 2001.

HUMANE SLAUGHTER VIOLATIONS & DOCUMENTED ANIMAL ABUSE:

- **Beardstown, IL** - Plant received a Suspension of Inspection for humane handling and slaughter violations from August 26 through August 28, 2003. Plant operations were shut down after hot weather killed about 1,100 pigs waiting to be unloaded from trucks. The pigs had been left on trucks due to the closing of several chutes for repairs. Plant received another Suspension of Inspection for humane handling and slaughter violations from December 4 to December 5, 2003.
- **Friona, TX** - Plant received a Suspension of Inspection for humane handling and slaughter violations on August 21, 2003.

PRODUCT RECALLS:

- **Milwaukee, WI** - Plant (dba Emmpak Foods) recalled 123,000 pounds of ground beef due to potential contamination with hydraulic fluid on February 15, 2005.
- **Marshall, MO** - Plant recalled 54,000 pounds of packaged pork product due to an undeclared allergen on June 2, 2004.
- **Dodge City, KS** - Plant recalled 26,600 pounds of fresh ground beef product due to misbranding on November 26, 2003; plant recalled 45,000 pounds of fresh ground beef due to potential contamination with E coli 0157:H7 on April 29, 2004.
- **Nebraska City, NE** - Plant (dba Emmpak Foods) recalled 362,890 pounds of ready-to-eat beef product due to incorrect labeling on August 21, 2003.
- **Newnan, GA** - Plant (dba Excel) was linked to an E coli outbreak when the plant recalled more than 190,000 pounds of ground beef and ground pork due to potential contamination with E coli 0157:H7 on June 24, 2001.
- **Waco, TX** - Plant recalled more than 16 million pounds of ready-to-eat turkey and chicken products due to potential contamination with *Listeria monocytogenes* on December 14, 2000. Later that month, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta confirmed that at least four deaths, three miscarriages or stillbirths, and 28 cases of listeriosis had been linked to the bacteria-contaminated meat produced at Cargill's plant.

OTHER:

- **Canada** - In May 2004, Cargill was found in contempt of a Canadian Parliament panel investigating whether the meat industry unfairly benefited from money provided by the government following the discovery of bovine spongiform encephalopathy ("mad cow" disease) in Canadian cattle. Cargill refused to release its financial records to the committee, which was questioning why ranchers were getting low prices from slaughter/processing companies, while consumers weren't paying much less for beef at the grocery store.
- **Wisconsin** - In May 2004, lawsuits were filed against Excel Corp on behalf of four children who claim they became extremely ill from eating food contaminated with E coli at a Milwaukee area Sizzler restaurant. More than 60 people fell ill and a three-year old girl died after eating at the restaurant in July 2000.