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Food and Ag-ISAC Announces Three New Industry Association Partners

WASHINGTON (May 30, 2024) – The <u>Food and Agriculture - Information Sharing and Analysis Center (</u>Food and Ag-ISAC) today announced a trio of new partnerships with leading industry associations in the food and agriculture sector - <u>FMI - The Food Industry Association</u>, the <u>National Grain and Feed Association</u>, and <u>SNAC International</u>. These partnerships will enable increased collaboration between the ISAC and the larger food and agriculture industry on cybersecurity and threat intelligence sharing.

These partnerships scale the Food and Ag-ISAC's ability to share critical threat intelligence throughout the sector. The Food and Ag-ISAC will provide weekly threat reports to the association partners and their members as part of this partnership. In addition, the Food and Ag-ISAC will provide threat briefings and cybersecurity thought leadership to the associations. Taken together, these offerings will enable more companies in the industry to understand better threats facing the industry and actions that can be taken to mitigate them.

As the Food and Ag-ISAC celebrates its first anniversary this month, these strategic partnerships continue to strengthen the ISAC's threat information network's capabilities to benefit of the entire food supply chain. In April, the Food and Ag-ISAC released its first ransomware report, which revealed that the sector was the 7th most targeted industry for ransomware attacks in 2023.

"Collaboration is one of the most effective tools in our arsenal as we continue to work towards enhanced cybersecurity across the food and agriculture industry," said **Scott Algeier**, **Executive Director of the Food and Ag-ISAC**. "We defend better when we defend together. The Food and Ag-ISAC remains dedicated to building and developing industry partnerships to keep the farm-to-table food supply chain safe from cyber threats. SNAC International, the National Grain and Feed Association, and the Food Industry Association each will help ensure that companies of all sizes can be up-to-date with the latest intel."

The industry associations and the Food and Ag-ISAC look forward to these mutually beneficial collaborations and the positive impact the partnership will have on the industry's cybersecurity measures. Representatives from the associations had the following to say about the new partnership:

 "Ensuring the resilience and safety of our members' supply chains is a top priority for FMI," said Leslie G. Sarasin, President and CEO of FMI – The Food Industry **Association**. "Partnering with the Food & Ag ISAC allows us to leverage the benefit of information sharing to ensure early detection and coordinated response while contributing our industry's expertise. Together, we can implement stronger cybersecurity protocols to protect consumers and the entire food system."

- "As an Association representing companies throughout the agricultural supply chain, we are keenly aware of the urgency and importance of strengthening security measures against cyber and ransomware attacks. The Food and Ag-ISAC stands as a cornerstone in safeguarding our nation's food security," said Mike Seyfert, NGFA's President and CEO. "NGFA is proud to be part of a community dedicated to actively collaborating to detect attacks, respond to incidents, and share indicators so that food and agriculture companies can better protect themselves and manage risks to the food supply chain. We encourage all industry stakeholders to help facilitate the spread and sharing of information, thereby bolstering the resilience of our human and animal food supply chain."
- "The snack industry understands the critical importance of cyber security to our day-to-day operations as individual businesses, the broader food sector, and ultimately national security," said Christine Cochran, SNAC's President & CEO. "SNAC International represents over 400 companies worldwide, including suppliers, marketers, and manufacturers. To be able to collaborate and manage cybersecurity risk across the entire sector through the efficient Ag-ISAC helps us stay ahead of attacks, protect company infrastructure, data, and keep producing products people love."

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About the Food and Ag-ISAC: Founded in 2023, the Food and Agriculture-Information Sharing and Analysis Center (Food and Ag-ISAC) provides threat intelligence, analysis, and effective security practices that help food and agriculture companies detect attacks, respond to incidents, and share indicators so they can better protect themselves and manage risks to their companies and the sector.

For more information about the Food and Ag-ISAC, please visit www.foodandag-isac.org.

X: twitter.com/foodandagisac LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/food-agriculture-isac