# Digital Platform Enables Faster Resolution of Corrective Actions

# Case Study - Pest Elimination



### **INSIGHT**

Pests pose significant operational and food safety risks due to their ability to spread diseases such as *E. coli, Salmonella* and *Listeria*. Food and beverage processing facilities are particularly attractive environments due to the ease of access to food and water sources. Once inside, pests can cause significant damage leading to costly consequences such as shutdowns and product recalls.

The average direct cost of a single product recall is \$10M, but can reach up to hundreds of millions of dollars. In addition to direct costs, product recalls can also cause lost sales due to significant brand damage. 55% of consumers indicate that they would switch brands temporarily following a recall.\*

To ensure a facility is well equipped to stay pest-free, completing structural and sanitation corrective actions are essential. Corrective actions are identified and documented by pest service specialists to help facilities protect themselves against pest risk. From tracking down facts to compiling data and formatting spreadsheets, preparing for an audit and creating a clear, accurate record of pest prevention is challenging and time-consuming.

### **INNOVATION**

Ecolab brings customers an unparalleled combination of science-based expertise to eliminate and prevent pest issues today, and continuous innovation to address the dynamic pest challenges of your evolving business. The Ecolab Corrective Actions Management Platform provides one source of truth, allowing quick visibility into plant

operations and food safety objectives across all locations through an easy-to-use interface. With the Ecolab Corrective Actions Management Platform, customers can be confident that all of their efforts have been clearly documented. It helps customers save time identifying and prioritizing corrective actions and preparing for audits, allowing them to focus on proactive strategies to reduce pest risks.

This platform was piloted across the U.S. for eight months and demonstrated significant positive change in the number of corrective actions closed as well as the time required to close them.

# % of corrective actions closed over the test period:

 Test group closed 19% more corrective actions over the test period with the Corrective Actions Management Platform

## Average time to close a corrective action:

 Test group closed corrective actions eight days faster on average than the control group.

# **Solutions**

Ecolab Corrective Actions Management Platform

Digital Documentation of Corrective Actions

**Audit-Readiness** 

# SERVICE RESULTS

A **single product recall** costs an average

\$10M

in direct costs.\*\*

With the Corrective Actions Management Platform, the test group **closed corrective actions** 

8

days faster.

"Very useful to have a one stop shop for pest control."

- Plant Sanitation Manager

"[it is valuable for] prioritization and reducing lead time to close out items. Driving improved IPM."

- Corporate Quality Sanitation Manager

<sup>\*\*</sup> https://www.foodsafetymagazine.com/ signature-series/recall-the-food-industrysbiggest-threat-to-profitability/



<sup>\* &</sup>lt;u>Harris Interactive</u>