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**PTI survey seeks industry input on RPC labeling practices by August 12, to inform new best practices**

The Produce Traceability Initiative's (PTI) Technology Working Group is seeking input from growers, packers, shippers, wholesalers and re-packers on their current practices for labeling returnable plastic containers (RPCs). The group asks companies currently packing into and labeling RPCs to participate in an online survey about their labeling practices, to help the working group develop effective best practices for creating PTI-compliant RPC labels for shipments into the U.S. marketplace. The group is developing those best practices in response to industry requests.

"We have heard from numerous packers and shippers that they very much want to have a standard, baseline RPC label that is acceptable to all U.S. buyers, and we're working toward that end," said United Fresh Produce Association's Dan Vache, who co-chairs the working group. "The first step is to ensure we have a good understanding of industry's current practices and needs."

To access the survey through August 12, please visit the link on the PTI home page, at [www.producetraceability.org](http://www.producetraceability.org).

The PTI Technology Working Group, comprised of representatives from a wide variety of technology companies, will draw on the survey results to develop best practices for creating RPC labels that include information required for PTI compliance along with customary shipper information. The new labels will also allow packers to include other potentially requested information (for example, information requested by customers or individual states).

For more information, contact CPMA's Jane Proctor, Vice President of Policy & Issues Management via email at [jproctor@cpma.ca](mailto:jproctor@cpma.ca) or by phone at (+1) 613-226-4187 x212 or United Fresh's Dan Vache by email at [dvache@unitedfresh.org](mailto:dvache@unitedfresh.org), or via telephone at +1 (425) 629-6271. For more information about the PTI, visit [www.producetraceability.org](http://www.producetraceability.org).

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**About the Canadian Produce Marketing Association**

Based in Ottawa, Ontario, the Canadian Produce Marketing Association (CPMA) is a not-for-profit organization that, since 1925, represents companies that are active in the fresh fruit and vegetable market in Canada, from the farm gate to the dinner plate. CPMA members include major grower/shippers/packers/marketer, importer/exporters, transportation, brokers, distributor/wholesalers, retailers, fresh cuts and foodservice distributors/operators and processors integrating all segments of the fresh produce industry. CPMA is proud to represent over 760 international and Canadian members who are responsible for 90% of the fresh fruit and vegetable sales in Canada. CPMA is funded by the industry through voluntary membership and various services, activities and sponsorship programs. For more information about CPMA, please visit [www.cpma.ca](http://www.cpma.ca).

**About GS1 US**

GS1 US is a not-for-profit organization that brings industry communities together to solve value-chain problems through the adoption and implementation of GS1 Standards. More than 200,000 businesses in 25 industries rely on GS1 US for trading-partner collaboration and for maximizing the efficiency, visibility, security and sustainability of their business processes. They achieve these benefits through GS1 US solutions based on GS1 global unique numbering and identification systems, barcodes, Electronic Product Code™-enabled RFID, data synchronization, and

electronic information exchange. GS1 US also manages the United Nations Standard Products and Services Code® (UNSPSC®). For more information, visit [www.GS1US.org](http://www.GS1US.org).

**About Produce Marketing Association (PMA)**

Founded in 1949, Produce Marketing Association is the leading trade association representing nearly 3,000 companies from every segment of the global produce and floral supply chain. Members rely on PMA year round for the business solutions they need to increase sales and consumption, build strong professional relationships, and expand their business opportunities. For more information, visit [www.pma.com](http://www.pma.com).

**About United Fresh Produce Association (United Fresh)**

United Fresh Produce Association is the pre-eminent trade association for the produce industry in managing critical public policy issues; shaping legislative and regulatory action; providing scientific and technical leadership in food safety, quality assurance, nutrition and health; and developing educational programs and business opportunities for members to better meet consumer needs for increased consumption of fresh produce. Founded in 1904, United Fresh represents the interests of member companies from small family businesses to the largest international corporations throughout the global fresh produce supply chain. For more information, visit [www.unitedfresh.org](http://www.unitedfresh.org).