

Welcome to



**The International Natural
Sausage Casing Association**



INSCA is the only international association for the natural sausage casing industry. Members include producers, suppliers and brokers of natural casing products. Additional membership categories are available to manufacturers of equipment used in the processing of natural casings, general animal by-products or any casings related fields as well as for national associations representing sausage casing companies.

INSCA offers a diversity of member nationalities, backgrounds, casings businesses and geographic locations. This diversity is the backbone of the synergy and emergence of ideas, innovations and progress in the casings industry. INSCA was established in 1965. The founding members were predominantly American companies. As the association evolved, new members from other countries helped change the global representation of INSCA. Today INSCA's membership includes a balance of European, North and South American, Asian, Middle Eastern, New Zealand, and Australian companies -- there is an INSCA member on every inhabited continent of the globe, including a total of more than 250 companies!

INSCA is governed by an eleven member Board of Directors elected by the membership of the association. The administrative functions of the association are handled by management professionals who maintain the organization's headquarters office in Alexandria, Egypt.

For more information,
e-mail: insca@insca.org or call us at +20- 122- 317- 3612

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Members of the casings industry are encouraged to become members of INSCA in order to reap the following benefits and help improve their businesses.

- **Annual Convention** -- INSCA members are entitled to attend the annual meeting of the association held in different countries around the world. Members benefit from networking and building contacts to increase their business activities and opportunities and plan business deals. Members take advantage of this once a year forum of casings industry members from all over the world gathered under one roof to do business and have some fun.
- **Government and Information report** -- Members receive a comprehensive monthly report of industry news, economic activities, updated legislature and current issues involving concerns in the industry from every region. Information that is sure to affect every member's business. An archive of the G&I report is on the website for references, accessed by members only.
- **Natural Link Newsletter** -- INSCA's newsletter is filled with information about industry events, member, committee, and association news. Members will automatically receive the INSCA quarterly newsletter and will have the opportunity to contribute editorial text, opinions and industry related ideas.
- **Annual Year Book** -- The INSCA Year Book includes advertisements and information about new member companies as well as the association's year in review. It is a great advertising source of information for those in the natural casing business.
- **Membership Directory** -- INSCA publishes an annual Directory of member companies containing complete addresses, phone, fax, and Internet information about each firm.

Only members of INSCA have access to this directory. The directory is distributed in PDF format and exists in detail on the website for members-only access.

- **Legislative Action** -- In conjunction with its affiliates throughout the world, INSCA monitors legislation of obvious interest to its members, such as trade issues and hygienic standards. INSCA strives to bring such matters to the attention of its membership, and also to act when necessary to protect the best interests of the natural casings industry. The association's legal counsel is Washington DC-based, which assists in tracking and reacting to government issues.
- **Marketing Tools** -- Members of INSCA may use the association's logo and registered «Made in Natural Casings» logo in their advertisements and promotions. Use of these marks by non-members is prohibited. INSCA is dedicated to the promotion of natural casings worldwide by offering other collateral materials for members to use.
- **Trade / Employment opportunities** -- Members may use the INSCA website to periodically check job listings for recruitment of expert staff personnel from all over the world as well as the classified section of the site to buy and sell equipment, casings, or other items.
- **Import/Export Advice** -- On occasion, a company in the natural casing business will encounter unusual or unexpected trade barriers, often the result of a poor understanding of trade regulations by government representatives within a particular country. In such instances, INSCA is quick to advise the affected parties of the current regulations and to attempt to assist them either directly or through collaboration with regional associations.

- **Exchange Forum** -- Members are given the opportunity to use INSCA as an information exchange forum through website chat groups only accessible by members.

- **Business Opportunities** -- Members of INSCA enjoy first hand access to un-solicited trade and business opportunities from all over the world where potential clients contact INSCA to buy and sell goods and services. Non-solicited business opportunities and demanded casings received by INSCA are placed on the website forum for members to take advantage of and respond to.

- **Subscription** -- All INSCA members receive a free subscription to *Fleischwirtschaft International*. With its worldwide distribution *Fleischwirtschaft International* provides valuable trade information for all decision-makers in slaughterhouses and meat product factories, as well as in research and academic institutions. The regular special section "Meat Research and Development" serves as a platform for exchange of information and opinions between research and practice. *Fleischwirtschaft International* appears five times a year in February, April, June, September and November.

COMMITTEES

INSCA is made up of several committees that serve distinctive functions. Committee chairs are made up of Board officers and Directors. The following are the committees and their objectives;

GOVERNMENT & MARKET INFORMATION COMMITTEE

The Government and Market Information committee is international and does not limit itself to the USA and the EU. Its role is to keep members well informed of all government affairs and general market trends all over the world.

Members of INSCA are all involved in international trade and hence need to be continuously updated on events, news, policies, decisions and statistics that help member companies make plans and strategic long and short term decisions.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership committee's main responsibility is to recruit casings people from the various regions of the globe thus expanding and empowering INSCA to serve the industry and continuously enhance its membership pool.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

The By-laws committee's role is to continuously incorporate new ideas in forming policies and regulations for the Board to follow and to guide them in decision making including, keeping with trends and operational improvements in the daily operations of the association.

PR / PNC COMMITTEE

The Public Relations and the Promotion of Natural Casings committee's role is to help INSCA gain exposure, enhance its image, form a favorable public opinion and increase involvement in the affairs of INSCA. It strives to establish good relations with the media such as newspapers and magazines, and be the spokesperson of the casings industry in all international publications through press releases and articles while partnering with regional and other associations. At the same time, it strives to be continuously active in the promotion and protection of natural casings throughout the world by producing promotional materials, lobbying for labeling, and creating awareness for both consumers and producers.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Leadership of INSCA is a critical part of its strength. The Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying and developing potential leaders ready to serve the industry through official positions in the INSCA hierarchy of leadership. These leaders come from different districts of the globe and come together to provide synergy and diversification in the association's management.

WEBSITE COMMITTEE

The Website Committee is responsible for maintaining the INSCA website as a valuable tool for both members and non-members; from the launching of the portal to the contents of the website and its pages. The committee provides the management team of the website with information and ideas on enhancing the website to be more beneficial to members and visitors alike.

REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEES

These committees are charged with keeping INSCA and the rest of the world informed on all information, regulatory changes, business affairs, import and export data and general industry information.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

The convention committee seeks to procure venues for the annual conventions as well as the semi-annual board meeting. This involves agreeing with host member companies in different countries to organize the various event venues.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP (ISWG)

International Scientific Working Group

A common characteristic of the modern consumer is this need for information about products, processes, safety issues and so much more. Consumers today will not eat something without knowing what it is made of, how, when, and where. This meant that consumers of sausages wanted to know what their sausages were made from and how. Obviously, casings producers and other participants in the industry were ready to answer these queries, but partially. The industry did not have enough scientific data and information.

At the same time, governments were moving along the same line imposing new health and safety regulations that needed understanding before implementation. This has led INSCA to invest time, money and efforts into science and scientific research.

The idea was that the industry as a whole needed to enhance the public and government awareness of our products and emphasize that these casings are safe and healthy ingredients of the sausage. At the same time the industry needed to come up with arguments based on sound scientific research to cope with the increasing public awareness and government interventions.

Today, INSCA still realizes the importance of this scientific research and studies and has committed to continue this mission of enhancing its scientific involvement and has therefore formed the ISWG, made up of delegates of member regional associations to study, propose and implement scientific study and research on natural casings, with the aim of enhancing public, scientific, and governmental awareness of our product and its properties.

It is believed that this scientific work is the property of all participants in the field and is aimed to be used for the overall good and well being of the industry.

INSCA members can submit scientific project ideas with the ISWG via iswg@insca.org.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON TRADE REGULATIONS



International Committee on Trade Regulations

The International Committee on Trade Regulations (ICTR) is an official committee of INSCA, the International Natural Sausage Casing Association, founded on October 14th 2010.

The main purpose of the ICTR is to deal with existing or emerging trade barriers around the world and find ways to resolve these barriers in order to achieve a global free-trade in natural casings, as stated in the INSCA bylaws.

The committee consists of: Chairman (appointed by INSCA board of directors), Legal Counsel, Executive Director, and appointed regional delegates.

The ICTR delegates represent a specified global region and are not specifically linked to any association. The following regions are represented by appointed delegates: North America, South America – Brazil, South America – other than Brazil, Europe – Member States, Europe – non Member States, Africa, Middle East, Australia & New Zealand, China, and Japan.

The ICTR concentrates on two general categories of trade barriers; Veterinary / public health related issues and Tariff / quota etc. related issues.

INSCA members can submit trade issues with the ICTR via ictr@insca.org. These issues will subsequently be logged, discussed and addressed.



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