



**BRCGS**  
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**AMERICAS**  
**OCTOBER 13-14**

# Conference Agenda

**Tuesday 13 October 2026**

07:30-08:15 **Breakfast Masterclass: BRCGS Consumer Products i5 – The Big Picture**  
**Chair:** Gwenda Jarrett, Non-Food Programme Manager & Angela O’Donovan, Head of Standards



07:45-08:30 **Coffee & Registration**

08:30-08:40 **Welcome Address**

**Chair:** Gillian Kelleher, BRCGS International Advisory Board Chair & Mike Wilson, Managing Director



08:40-09:05 **Risk Assessments in the Real World**

**Speakers:** Gordon Hayburn, VPFSQA



09:05-09:30 **Food Crime Prevention – Risks, Trends and Resources**

**Speaker:** TBC

09:30-09:50 **Thought Leader Session:**

**Speaker:** TBC

09:50-10:35 **PANEL: Horizon Scanning - Emerging risks**

**Speaker:** Steven Mandernach, Executive Director



10:35-10:40 **Video Thought Leader:**

10:40-11:10 **Networking Break and Exhibition**

11:10-11:20 **BRCGS Awards Ceremony - Part 1**



11:20-11:45 **Future of Auditing - Resources and Young Professionals**

**Speaker:** Clint Stevenson, Professor of Food Science



11:45-12:10 **The changes to legislation on Listeria**

**Speaker:** Sanjay Gummalla, Senior Vice President, Food Safety and Scientific Affairs



12:10-12:25 **Thought Leader Session:**

**Speaker:** TBC



## Conference Agenda (continued)

### Tuesday 13 October 2026

12:25-13:10

**PANEL: IAB Industry Panel**

**Speakers:** Tom Ford, Vice President, Food Safety and Quality Assurance  
Rodger Ziolkowski, VP Global Food Safety and Quality  
Sharon Birkett, VP Global Quality Operations

13:10-13:15

**Video Thought Leader:**

13:15-14:25

**Networking Lunch and Exhibition**

14:25-14:35

**BRCGS Awards Ceremony - Part 2**

14:35-15:00

**You Own It. They Shape It. Now What? Closing the Leadership Gap in Food Safety Culture**

**Speaker:** Tia Glave, President + Co-Founder & Jill Stuber, President + Co-Founder

15:00-15:45

**Panel: Not Just a Checklist: Building a Living Food Safety Culture Through Leadership**

**Speaker:** Vanessa Coffman, Director of the Alliance to Stop Foodborne Illness  
Jorge Hernandez, VP Quality Assurance

15:45-16:20

**Networking Break and Exhibition**

16:20-16:35

**Improve Safety with Consumer Products Certification**

**Speaker:** Gwenda Jarrett, Non-Food Programme Manager & Angela O'Donovan, Head of Standards

16:35-17:00

**AI & Predictive Food Safety & Quality**

**Speaker:** Hillari Bynum, Director of Marketing & Innovation

17:00-17:40

**Panel: What Keeps You Up At Night**

**Speakers:** Steven Mandernach, Executive Director

17:40-17:45

**Closing Remarks**

**Chair:** Gillian Kelleher, BRCGS International Advisory Board Chair

18:30-21:00

**Evening Networking Drinks**





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# Masterclass Agenda

## Wednesday 14 October 2026

- 08:00-08:30 **Arrival Coffee**
- 08:30-10:00 **OPTION 1 Accidents, Attackers, and Adulterators: Addressing HACCP, TACCP, & VACCP Assessments**  
**Hosts:** Gordon Hayburn, VPFSQA  
 Nadia Narine, President/CEO, Approved BRCGS Trainer and Consultant
- 08:30-10:00 **OPTION 2 Change Management and Effective Communication Strategy**  
**Host:** Goranka Platisa, Director -FSQ Consultant & Trainer  
 Rajko Platisa, Food Safety Compliance Consultant & Trainer
- 10:00-10:30 **Networking break**
- 10:30-12:00 **OPTION 1 What AI will really break (and fix) in food compliance**  
**Host:** Siska Lannoo, founder of backbone
- 10:30-12:00 **OPTION 2 Beyond the Checklist: Food Safety & Quality Culture**  
**Hosts:** Kris Middleton, Business Unit Director - Food and Forestry  
 Barry Meikle, Technical Manager – Food
- Midday **Event Close**

