

# 7 STEPS to DEFENDING your food business

## 1 KNOW YOUR SUPPLY CHAIN

This is not just a matter of knowing who your direct suppliers are. It's becoming increasingly important to have visibility below tier 1 in order to build a complete picture of where your products have come from.

## 2 ASSESS VULNERABILITY

Only once you have identified and located direct and indirect suppliers is it possible to assess the areas where your supply chain is potentially vulnerable. Risks of fraud and contamination, cases of modern slavery, poor animal welfare and environmentally damaging practices can all be flagged if there is a clear line of sight.

## 3 BE PROACTIVE

Don't risk waiting until the next big scare hits the headlines to do your supply chain research. With news spreading faster and food supply networks becoming more complex, it is essential to stay ahead of the game by having up-to-date information at your fingertips.

## 4 CHECK & AUDIT

Auditing your own systems and suppliers and making sure corrective actions are implemented is standard practice, as is checking for certificates and regulatory compliance. In order to have value, these checks need to be fast and efficient, properly documented and stored, and monitored continuously.

## 5 MAP & MANAGE

Mapping out your supply chain and keeping accurate records can provide the ultimate defence system for your business— not only does it provide evidence, it also gives the valuable insight you need to make better decisions for the future.

## 6 COLLABORATE

Knowledge is power - and technology has made sharing information easier than ever. Supply chain transparency is often cited as the best way to secure our food systems for the benefit of businesses and consumers, and digital solutions that make this possible are revolutionising the data-led approach taken by industry leaders.

## 7 JOIN THE DOTS

With an increasing number of stakeholders involved in matters of compliance and responsible sourcing, including technical teams, heads of CSR, ethical and commercial managers, a comprehensive system is needed to maximise the benefits of transparency for achieving wider business objectives.

## A technology-led solution for managing complex supply chains



Authenticate



t: +44 (0)1423 548583

e: [enquiries@authenticateis.com](mailto:enquiries@authenticateis.com)

[www.authenticateis.com](http://www.authenticateis.com)