# EHEDG value proposition PHEDG offers these products and services for the benefit of these stakeholders for these development stages of hygienic food processing facilities

### The benefits of membership and value proposition that EHEDG provides for the stakeholders and to Food Safety Management Systems

# **Regional Section of EHEDG** established for New Zealand



David Lowry, FNZIFST, is spearheading the initiative to create a New Zealand section of EHEDG

David Lowry, FNZIFST, Lowry Food Consultants Ltd.

A regional section of the European Hygienic Engineering Design Group (EHEDG) was formally established at the plenary meeting of the EHEDG World Congress in London in late November 2018.

The initiative to establish a regional section for New Zealand was spearheaded by David Lowry, based on his assessment of a food safety need and resource gap in the New Zealand food industry and its supply chain.

# What is EHEDG? What does it do?

The EHEDG mission states "EHEDG enables safe food production by providing guidance as an authority on hygienic engineering and design".

EHEDG was founded in 1989 in the Netherlands as a not-for-profit consortium of equipment manufacturers, food producers, suppliers to the food industry, research institutes, universities, public health authorities and governmental organisations. EHEDG provides a balanced forum for all stakeholders to discuss issues concerning hygienic design and to stimulate food safety and quality by:

- Identifying areas where knowledge of hygienic design is insufficient;
- Filling the existing gaps and lack of know-how with practical guidelines and education;
- Preparing scientific and technical guidelines on all aspects of best practice hygienic design requirements in accordance with relevant legislation;
- Offering expertise, networking and further developments in the fields of hygienic engineering and design and safe food production;
- Encouraging research and development in the field of hygienic design;
- Promoting and disseminating hygienic design know-how through all media channels, congresses, seminars etc.

While European-based in origin, the mission of EHEDG is relevant globally with 32 Regional Country Sections, 11 sections are now outside of Europe in the Americas and Asia Pacific with New Zealand being the newest member.

## **Become a member**

EHEDG membership is split into three types; Company members, Institute members (includes universities), and individual members. All membership is through the central EHEDG secretariat ( www.ehedg. org ) with all registered members automatically linked to their Country Regional Section for no additional fee.

The New Zealand Regional Section of EHEDG is at the very outset of establishment with the first meeting of the New Zealand committee taking place in early February to establish operation within the EHEDG guidelines and objectives specific to New Zealand. Key objectives for the NZEHEDG organisation will include:

- Establishing sector group engagement re membership of EHEDG
- Establish an education training network for delivery of EHEDG training modules
- Set up a network and information structure to enable identification of issues of concern and encourage industry-wide solution
- Acknowledge the expertise of the global EHEDG community and to promote the capability of New Zealand 'experts' to be part of Guideline development working groups

Currently, David Lowry is the Chair of the NZ EHEDG Committee. Until the first meeting of the committee when dedicated web links, social media and e-mail links for NZ EHEDG are established. The current contact is David's company e-mail – dave@lowryfc.co.nz. Further details will be provided through Food New Zealand, NZIFST Nibbles and other appropriate channels as soon as they are finalised and set up.

In the meantime, David would be delighted to hear from you regarding becoming a member and/or participating in committee functions, either by email or phone: 021 569447.