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NMA HAILS FOOD SAFETY WORKING GROUP FINDINGS

OAKLAND, CA – National Meat Association greeted the findings announced today by the President's Food Safety Working Group as sound. The Working Group announced its findings and outlined its next steps at a meeting this afternoon at the White House. The association particularly applauded the Group's three guiding principles ...

- 1) Preventing harm to consumers is our first priority.
- 2) Effective food safety inspections and enforcement depend upon good data and analysis.
- 3) Outbreaks of foodborne illness should be identified quickly and stopped.

"These are principles of universal applicability and the President's Working Group has taken a step in the right direction by adopting them as guidelines," said NMA CEO Barry Carpenter, who was in attendance at the White House meeting. "Details still have to be worked out, but if the Working Group truly starts by acting in a preventive manner, based on good data and analysis, then the opportunity to make real progress exists."

At the end of the day, cooperation is the best way to make principles reality and thereby make food safer. NMA published its own 'Roadmap to Safe Food' earlier this year, outlining essential components to food safety reform. For the association's roadmap visit http://nmaonline.org/pdf/pr3_11_09.pdf.

National Meat Association is a non-profit trade association. Since 1946, NMA has represented meat packers and processors, equipment manufacturers and food suppliers who provide services to the meat industry. The association has members throughout the United States, as well as in Canada, Australia and Mexico.