## Flow Sensor aids in Preventive Control for FSMA Compliance

Preventing cross contamination of ingredients is just one of many preventive controls faced by food and feed manufacturers complying with the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA).

The BinMaster Flow Detect 2000 can be used as a control to significantly minimize or prevent the hazard of cross contamination by detecting whether material is still flowing through a distributor leg, chute, feeder, or pipeline used to transport materials during the production process.





One large facility recently installed the Flow Detect 2000 on the legs of its distributor. When the sensors were first put into operation, one sensor alerted that material was still flowing through a leg after the gate was shut.

Upon closer inspection (i.e. climbing up and sticking our heads in), there was still a small trickle of material flowing because the gate had failed to close completely. The maintenance crew was able to repair the gate and there was no contamination because the sensor had done its job.

The Flow Detect 2000 uses microwave Doppler technology for highly sensitive motion detection and is able to detect powders, granules, pellets, and other solid materials flowing through a transition point in the production process. It does not detect flow rate, rather it detects whether there is a 'flow' or 'no flow' condition. Already installed in several large grain and feed processing establishments, it is proven to detect even a trickle of a flow of material.

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The threat of cross contamination is a reasonably foreseeable hazard that may affect facilities producing food for human or animal consumption. The Flow Detect 2000 is an affordable, simple to install, and rugged device that houses both the sensor and control console in a single NEMA 4X enclosure. A single analog relay output communicates flow or no flow status to a PLC and has the option of using both normally open (NO) and normally closed (NC) contacts. LED indicator lights inform the end user of the device's status. It includes a switchable filter which reduces the effect of vibration and ensures the

detection of moderate and fast-flowing materials.



Contact <u>Nathan Grube</u> at BinMaster to see how the Flow Detect 2000 can help your operation comply with FSMA.

