Focus on
supply chain efficiency

Running a more
efficient food network

Inefficiency in the food system is a pervasive problem worldwide, made more apparent by the COVID-19 crisis, which stressed the global supply chain.[1] With so many participants, there are endless opportunities to lose efficiency and profits. Inefficiencies negatively effect consumer pricing, the carbon footprint, food waste and expected freshness. According to the United Nations, **1.4 billion tons of perishable food is wasted due to inefficiencies found with the food supply chain.[2]**

What's standing in the way of driving new food chain efficiencies?

Legacy supply chains slow companies down

Though some large retailers are deploying new technologies like blockchain[3] to create automated and intelligent supply chains, most companies are bogged down in manual paper-based processes that make it difficult and time-consuming to identify issues and manage inventory.

Slow adoption of digital supply chain tools keeps companies in the dark

Even though visibility and transparency will be key to their success over the next 10 years[4], companies have been slow to adopt digital tools that could enable better supply and demand matching and identify waste hot spots.

Poor coordination across the food chain network creates waste

Irregularities in the global food system make hand-offs far from seamless. Enabling a system that tracks product loss, waste and expiration dates could save $150 billion annually[5] in food waste.

Blockchain for the food system

A shared digital food supply chain powered by blockchain helps supply chain players better collaborate with each other to operate more efficiently and adapt to change.

Working smarter across a shared ecosystem

Easily identify process inefficiencies, eliminate bottlenecks and optimize your supply chain for continuous growth.

Real-time demand forecasting

All food system participants can now know the provenance, real-time location and status of their food products. Armed with better data, companies can develop more accurate supply and demand forecasting models, localize the sourcing of ingredients and restructure contracts.

Scalability

Automated processes and end-to-end synchronization can create efficiencies at every step.

IBM Food Trust creates a secure, shared and permissioned record of transactions. This enables unprecedented visibility during each step of the food supply chain, so you can achieve new levels of trust and transparency, making food safer and smarter from farm to fork.

Boost **efficiency** with IBM Food Trust

IBM Food Trust consists of different modules designed to help participants in the food system—producers, suppliers, manufacturers, distributors, and retailers—to make their supply chains more efficient.

Leveraging blockchain and IoT technology, the **Insights** capabilities module can provide unprecedented supply chain visibility to help identify and address inefficiencies.

With the **Trace** module, food system members can securely and transparently trace the location and status of food products on the supply chain.

Additionally, with the **Documents** module, users can prove sustainability and provenance with ease by securely managing certificates throughout the entire supply chain.

For more information contact your IBM representative or visit **ibm.com/food**

1. https://www.bcg.com/publications/2018/tackling-1.6-billion-ton-food-loss-andwaste-crisis.aspx

2. https://news.walmart.com/2018/09/24/in-wake-of-romaine-e-coli-scare-walmartdeploys-blockchain-to-track-leafy-greens

3. https://www.bcg.com/publications/2018/tackling-1.6-billion-ton-food-loss-andwaste-crisis.aspx

4. https://www.bcg.com/publications/2018/tackling-1.6-billion-ton-food-loss-andwaste-crisis.aspx

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