

New CFA Chairman

Ron Mellow of H J Heinz Ltd is the new Chairman of CFA. Previously CFA's Vice Chairman, Ron has been a member of CFA's Executive Committee since 1999. He takes over from Dr Geoff Andrews who has left the food industry.

Ron chairs the CFA Executive (CFA's Board of Directors) which is responsible for the governance and development of CFA. Comprising senior management representatives of Full Member companies, the Board oversees all CFA activities and addresses non-technical issues impacting the industry.

Ron started his career with Unilever in 1971, on their graduate management scheme and worked in a wide variety of roles and locations in the UK and Africa. In 1988 he joined United Biscuits in a business subsequently acquired by Heinz in 1999, where he is currently Divisional Director for the Marks and Spencer business. He has also been instrumental in Heinz's entry into branded chilled foods.

"We are delighted that Ron Mellow has become our new Chairman. Ron's experience in the food industry is extensive. His knowledge and background will help us in our mission to promote the reputation and standards of food safety and hygiene of the professional chilled food industry", said Kaarin Goodburn, CFA's Secretary General.

CFA and DEFRA waste technologies workshop

From 1 January 2006, the landfilling of material containing animal by-products will be banned. Currently there is no infrastructure for handling this material and contracts and investments need to be made now if the industry is to meet this deadline.

To help address these issues CFA and DEFRA held a very successful workshop on 24 May 2004. Over 60 delegates attended bringing together regulators, local authorities, researchers, CFA members and waste disposal operators.



Mr Ron Mellow, New CFA Chairman

The workshop addressed many of the technological issues identified at a previous workshop held in September 2003:

- the need for more information on energy-based solutions (thermal technologies) including cost and fitness for purpose;
- the alternative technologies;
- how to handle finalised, packaged materials;
- Minimising the distance the waste travels as well as establishing new and utilising existing local waste disposal solutions including the potential for piggy-backing with local authorities' schemes and infra-structures;
- identifying legitimate uses for biogas plants and composting outputs.

During the workshop, CFA's mapping data was presented by town, county and EA region with a view to identifying where local investment in appropriate sustainable technologies is required.

Presentations on established and novel treatment technologies and the CFA mapping data are available (under 'Resources/Presentations') on the CFA website. Proceedings are available to CFA members.

CFA is also working with DEFRA on approaches to waste minimisation in this fast-paced diverse industry.

