

SmartSense

Bolstering childhood nutrition
in K-12 cafeterias and kitchens

Pasadena ISD leverages
Internet of Things
solution for HACCP
compliance and
improved food
quality across its
67 campus kitchens



Pasadena Independent School District (ISD) fosters their value of “feed kids first” by serving quality meals to more than 50,000 students in southeast Harris County, Texas.

The Challenge

Given the large size of Pasadena ISD and the fact that their locations are spread out relatively far apart geographically, the Nutrition Services department struggled with having eyes on the ground to monitor food safety and quality operations at each campus kitchen. The varying skill levels of kitchen managers and staff added to the challenge of meeting HACCP standards in a consistent, verifiable manner. Manual recording, uploading, and reporting of critical food safety measurements slowed down SOPs and failed to provide the central office the insight they needed to make proper adjustments.

Collaborating with SmartSense, Pasadena ISD set forth the following objectives:

- Obtain real-time digital visibility into operations and execution in physical kitchens
- Deploy rugged, connected temperature-taking equipment for ease of data capture
- Integrate HACCP compliance solution with PrimeroEdge menu management software



INTEGRATES WITH
PrimeroEdge

The Solution

Automated HACCP Compliance

Pasadena ISD deployed SmartSense's automated HACCP compliance logging solution with wireless Smart Shield temperature probes, replacing burdensome paper-based manual logging with real-time temperature recording, automatically stored and saved in the cloud. The SmartSense system provided Pasadena ISD's Nutrition Services department with visibility into temperature logs, food safety, and food quality, allowing them to see everything taking place at all 67 kitchen locations right from their desktops.

PrimeroEdge + SmartSense Integration

SmartSense's digital HACCP management platform seamlessly integrated with Pasadena ISD's existing menu management software from PrimeroEdge, providing the school district with automated, digital workflows for menu planning and inventory management. With the integration in place, all updates to menus due to last-minute changes, substitutions, and leftover maximization efforts automatically flowed to the Smart Shield physical device that kitchen staff used to take temperatures during HACCP compliance procedures. During initial deployment, SmartSense managed all the API setup, profile creation, and menu integration for easy, streamlined implementation.

Digital Task Management and Correction Actions

The SmartSense solution included digital workflows and prescriptive guidance for corrective actions in cases featuring exceptions or other incidents. Pasadena ISD streamlined their kitchen SOPs with SmartSense's solution, eliminating error-prone and labor-intensive manual operations checklists. Timely prompts from the SmartSense solution initiated remediation efforts required of kitchen staff if foods were overcooked or undercooked, leading to improved food quality.

The Results

Once Pasadena ISD had deployed SmartSense throughout their district locations, the positive outcomes started to reveal themselves in abundance—food quality improved as corrective actions increased, time to complete compliance procedures reduced drastically, visibility into operations expanded radically, and the peace of mind brought by automated food safety empowered the Nutrition Services department staff to be more proactive in their strategic childhood nutrition initiatives.

"As one of the larger public school systems in Texas, we need district-wide visibility to monitor our inventory and equipment in order to ensure the safety of our students. The Smart Sense HACCP management solution, with its flow of food and menu management capabilities allows our department to ensure compliance and food safety across the district while also monitoring food quality for our students. The system is both easy to use and easy to train new employees. We love it."

Mary Harryman
Director of Nutrition Services
Pasadena ISD



Watch the video at:
smartsense.co/pasadena-isd

Empowered by the ease of installation and exceptional nature of SmartSense customer support, Pasadena ISD found that training their staff to use the automated system improved efficiency and effectiveness in execution of kitchen tasks, streamlining the delivery of safe, quality food to the more than 50,000 students served by the district.



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