

Trace the origin of any food

Ever wondered how it's possible to tell where the content of a milk carton originates from? Producers put a lot of effort into providing you with this valuable information.

How can it be made easier?

Through a well-designed graphical user interface food producers can now track their raw materials way through the factory and a finished product may be tracked backwards. With a unique identifier on your milk carton for instance the application will tell which production line it came from. Even which path the raw materials took through the factory ending up in the package in your hand. In addition, the application will show connected quality samples related to the package in your hand.

Currently, the application focuses on traceability of materials inside the continuous process. A continuous process is complicated when it comes to obtaining proper traceability. Just as the name indicates there is no clear stop. Compare that with when you bake at home, a batch of pancakes includes certain amounts of each ingredient. Instead imagine a piper where pancake batter continuously pours out as you fry them. Now it is hard to tell which eggs are in the batter.

The application itself is implemented in a flexible way allowing to easily adapt to future traceability challenges. Making it even easier for companies to follow current traceability trends. Currently many companies have several systems to handle their data, to strengthen the application, a way to smoothly gather data from different sources needs to be developed.

In the future, the developed application will be showcased to companies as a demo, in order to investigate more precise traceability needs and design parameters.

As of now consumers greatly value to know the origin of the product but what can happen in the future? Imagine the day when you can read exact quality indicators, at different stages of the supply chain, all related to the very package of food that you hold in your hand. This work, called "Trace the origin of any food", brings us closer to that day!