

“...no one company is large enough to do on their own many of the things MICA is able to effectively do as a representative of the whole industry...”

HOW DO I JOIN?

Easy!

Start right now by contacting Steve Sothmann:

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MICA
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You can also submit an application at micausa.org/mica-members-registration.

After being processed and accepted by the board of directors, you can be a proud member of this great organization receiving all the benefits and recognition that only membership gives.

Today is the perfect day to join.



What is MICA?

MICA is a voluntary organization of individuals and companies, primarily from North America, Australia, New Zealand, South America and Europe. MICA works to promote and facilitate trade of wholesome imported meat and meat products within the North American region. It is headquartered in Washington DC.

How does MICA Promote and Facilitate Trade of Wholesome Imported Meat and Meat Products in North America?

MICA acts as a clearing house for information and contacts, and as a hub for organized activities. The important issues and needs of the extensive international marketing channels through which imported meats moves through have shifted and changed with time and will continue to do so. MICA, since its founding in 1962, has been adept at changing and evolving to meet the needs of its members in the various segments of the global marketing channels moving wholesome imported meat from distant off shore farms and ranches to consumers in the USA. As MICA approaches a half century of service it has clearly stood the test of time. Voluntary organizations only last a half century because they provide benefits to their members. MICA has done this consistently over time.

MICA's Valuable Services Include:

- Crisis management capabilities that can be called upon on short notice when the situation requires it;
- Maintains a presence in Washington, DC to monitor legislative developments relating to imported meat as they arise and ensure the voice of the meat import sector is heard;
- Provides a forum for importers and overseas suppliers to discuss regulatory and commercial issues that are impacting, or have the potential to impact, US meat imports;
- Provides a well-recognized US-based organization to represent both domestic and overseas commercial interests before key decision makers on all regulatory issues impacting meat imports;
- Liaises with USDA and other federal agencies to provide input on the commercial implications of any proposed new procedures and regulations that would impact the imported meat sector BEFORE they are made final and implemented.
- Provides a forum to discuss, agree upon, and publish trading rules and guidelines that promote the orderly flow of meat through commercial channels. This includes guidelines to facilitate the resolution of fat claims;
- Provides a daily market news recap for members delivered via the internet and a monthly market overview.
- Provides information and expertise to members on imported meat issues in response to member telephone and email requests;
- Sponsors the premier industry-wide annual conference, providing a structure and forum for both US and international commercial and government contacts to network and discuss current issues and concerns;
- Has the reputation, credibility and integrity to present the ideas and interests of a community of companies and organizations associated with imported meat to key decision makers that no one company could present effectively on its own;
- Is led by industry and association experts with deep experience dealing with imported meat issues with the technical knowledge and personal contacts to get accurate answers and resolve issues.

... plus many more

Who Are MICA Members Today

- Importers/Traders
- Food Manufacturers
- Meat Brokers
- Warehouses
- Exporting meat packers & brokers
- Trading partner organizations
- Foodservice Operators/restaurants
- Retailers
- Shipping Lines
- Food Distributors
- Custom Brokers
- Food Labs
- Truckers
- Consulting organizations, including law and economic firms



Where does MICA operate?

While MICA's headquarter offices are in the Washington DC area its geographic area of operation is truly global.

MICA's board of directors includes members from both the Northern and Southern hemisphere and cover all links in the imported meat supply chain.

Why is MICA's role vital to the imported meat industry?

The way meat is traded and regulated is unique in a number of aspects. For example, meat is the only product (not fruits, not medicines, etc.) that is 100% inspected at the port of entry by the US government prior to entry. Every single box of imported product is stamped by the USDA after it has passed inspection. Today it is vital to have an organization dedicated to exclusively representing the interests of this important industry.

Why is my membership important?

The world is a tough place. MICA membership dues are a great value. It costs considerable funds to do all the things MICA does. A large membership base and modest membership dues allow for adequate funding to keep MICA doing the important things it has done the last half century and expects to do the next half century.

MICA membership is broken out into four major categories:

- Corporate members
- Importers and end-users
- Brokers, Export Packers and Associations
- Ancillary partners (e.g., warehouses, logistics, trade publications, laboratories)