



**BakingTECH 2024**  
**February 27 - 29**

## **Sample Content**

### **Wheat Improvement: Creating Chords for the Future from Notes of the Past**

Wheat variety development in the USA is in the homestretch of a century of organized research, driven by the hybridization of novel and complementary parents followed by stringent selection for progeny with improved agronomic and functional characteristics. The products of wheat breeding in one era become the genetic resources, or germplasm, for further improvement in subsequent eras.

While the overall breeding process has not changed dramatically, the breeding tools and germplasm used to advance the process have become more sophisticated and diverse, with favorable outcomes being increased breeding program efficiency and output. Another noticeable outcome has been an unprecedented level of private sector investment in wheat variety development in only the past five years. Future improvement will continue to depend on expanding our knowledge of inheritance for traits, which impact farmers, processors, and consumers.

In a society inundated with non-factual information and fad diets centered on wheat, true fundamentals and scientific principles of wheat improvement will be presented to help the audience intuitively separate the wheat from the chaff.

After this presentation, participants will be able to:

- Understand the general mechanics of the wheat variety development process and distinguish between past and present varieties
- Separate fact from fiction about the science and impact of wheat breeding at the consumer level
- Look into the future of wheat with a more realistic perception of technologies that will improve or stabilize yield and functionality traits.



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## **Still Distributing Using Company Employees? Letting Go, Raising Profits**

Why do so many bakery manufacturers move their product to the market with independent distributors rather than employees? What makes independent distribution such a more profitable and beneficial model?

The trend in the Baking industry from employees to independent distribution began in the 1950's and has accelerated to the point where the great majority of manufacturers use independent distribution in some or all of their customer markets. Find out the how's and whys of independent distribution and answer the question "Can it work for us?" In the current economic environment of increased transportation and personnel expenses as well as the looming healthcare confusion, more and more manufacturers and distribution companies are exploring this option. Find out what you need to know and how companies convert their current DSD employee systems to independents. Why it works, how it works and can it work for you.

After this presentation, participants will be able to:

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of Independent Distribution?
- Why is Independent distribution a more cost effective model than employees?
- Will i still "control" my market using Distributors?
- What happens with sales and customer service?