



**DATE:** April 5, 2010

**TO:** All Local Health Departments  
Attn: Chief Food Inspection Officer

**FROM:** <sup>ASG</sup> A. Scott Gilliam, MBA, CP-FS  
Director, Food Protection Program

**SUBJECT:** Watkins Inc Recall

**SUGGESTED**

**ACTION:** Unclassified Recall; Crab Snack & Dip Seasoning food because it has the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella; Information provided in case of an inquiry.

From the information provided by FDA, the products being recalled were distributed in the State of Indiana. The recalled Crab Snack & Dip Seasonings products were distributed only through Watkins network of independent contractors, associates and through mail orders. Detail information is not available at this time. In addition, if any recalled product is found, please notify this office at 317-233-7360.

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**Recall -- Firm Press Release**

FDA posts press releases and other notices of recalls and market withdrawals from the firms involved as a service to consumers, the media, and other interested parties. FDA does not endorse either the product or the company.

**Watkins Incorporated Recalls Crab Snack & Dip Seasoning Because of Possible Health Risk from Ingredient Supplied by Kerry Ingredients**

**Contact:**  
James Yenish  
507-457-2003

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** - March 31, 2010 - Watkins Inc. of Winona, MN, is recalling 306 units of its individual 4.6 ounce containers and 283 units of its 0.9 ounce packages of Crab Snack & Dip Seasoning food because they have the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*,

an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with *Salmonella* often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with *Salmonella* can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (i.e., infected aneurysms), endocarditis and arthritis.

The potential for contamination was noted after routine testing by the supplier of a raw material used in the Crab Snack & Dip Seasoning. Kerry Ingredients & Flavours products manufactured with HVP (hydrolyzed vegetable protein) supplied by Basic Food Flavors Inc, revealed the presence of *Salmonella* which is used in the 4.6 ounce and 0.9 ounce packages of Crab Snack & Dip Seasoning.

The recalled Crab Snack & Dip Seasonings was distributed only through Watkins network of independent contractors, associates and through mail orders.

The product comes in a 4.6 ounce, clear glass package marked with lot #39554 on the side of the package; in addition this product comes in a 0.9 ounce, silver foil pouch marked with lot #40261 on the bottom of the package.

No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with this problem.

Production of the product has been suspended while FDA and the company continue their investigation as to the source of the problem.

Consumers who have purchased the 4.6 ounce or 0.9 ounce packages of Crab Snack & Dip Seasoning are urged to return them to their original place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact the company at 1-800-243-9423.

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Photo: Product Labels<sup>1</sup>