

# OCTA-GONE™

## Helps Processor Achieve RTE Alternative 1 FSIS Validation

### **PROBLEM:**

An RTE processor was approached by one of their major customers with a new policy that all deli-style meats be processed under FSIS Alternative 1. The RTE processor was using microbial growth inhibitors in their deli meat formulation, but lacked a post-lethality treatment that met their own internal quality standards and cost targets.

### **SOLUTION:**

Ecolab assisted the RTE processor in validating Octa-Gone as a post-lethality treatment to help control *Listeria monocytogenes* on representative deli meat surfaces. The Octa-Gone treatment alone achieved >1 log reduction, and the Octa-Gone treatment along with a short term heat exposure using a modified shrink tunnel, provided >2 log reduction.

### **RESULTS:**

Octa-Gone has been a big win for the RTE processor, whose vice president of Operations exclaimed, 'Octa-Gone has everything beat by a hundred miles.' RTE deli meat products that are processed under Alternative 1 conditions with Octa-Gone, satisfied the requirement from the major customer.

**Note:** *Octa-Gone is not for use to sanitize hard food contact surfaces such as tanks, lines, food processing equipment, or to reduce microbial count in processing water or food packaging.*