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Sampling and Enforcement

**The Proceedings of a One-day Symposium Which Was Held in
Cardiff on Friday, 5 May, 1978**

Introduction

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There has been a tremendous change in the last decade in the way in which food is manufactured, distributed and sold. A change which calls for a new look at sampling techniques.

It has long been recognized that an analysis, however expertly carried out, is only as good as the sample taken for analysis. It not only has to be representative of the material to be examined but also it must provide information for the appropriate local government officers properly to enforce the law in the spirit and context in which it was made.

The symposium had amongst the delegates, experts from many disciplines including representatives of government and industry. The substance of the papers presented and the subsequent discussions highlight the difficulties in harmonization of local, national and international legislation.

There is no doubt that in order for the total enforcement procedure to function adequately more resources will need to be provided and I am sure that the authoritative opinions expressed in the following papers will lead the way to more efficient use of the services provided by local authorities.

