LotStow FSMA 204 Traceability Pack — Sample Summary

SAMPLE ONLY. EXAMPLE DATA. Prepared Saturday, November 21, 2026, from public U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) material, for a fictional produce distributor and repacker (Example Meadowbrook Produce Distributing), the first buyer segment this pack is written for. No real firm asked for or received this work, and no firm has been contacted. Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) section 204 is implemented by FDA's Food Traceability Rule, 21 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 1, subpart S.

Not a compliance certification. The supplier signs its own Food Traceability List (FTL) declarations and its own 21 CFR 1.1315 traceability plan, and makes its own retailer or FDA submissions. Coverage and exemption decisions are the supplier's. LotStow never certifies compliance and makes no "compliant" guarantee. All firm names, addresses, lot codes, quantities and dates in the records are fictional example data.

Spreadsheet check on this sample: PASS (0 missing required cells). A script, `tools/validate_kde.py`, checked that every required key data element is filled for each critical tracking event that has data, against 21 CFR 1.1340 (shipping), 1.1345 (receiving), 1.1350 (transformation) and 1.1310 (product and location description), on FDA's official electronic sortable spreadsheet template. Rows checked: receiving 3, receiving from an exempt person 1, transformation 1, shipping 5. This is a completeness check of the cells. It is not a legal review and not a food-safety review. No Preventive Controls Qualified Individual or other human food-safety reviewer has examined this pack.

What this sample pack contains

Deliverable	What it is
Written traceability plan	The elements in 21 CFR 1.1315: how records are kept and where, how FTL foods are identified, how traceability lot codes are assigned, and a point of contact. A farm map is not applicable (this firm does not grow or raise FTL food).
Key data element / critical tracking event mapping	Required fields for receiving, shipping and transformation, with Code of Federal Regulations citations, plus the events this distributor does not perform (harvesting or cooling, 21 CFR 1.1325; initial packing, 1.1330; first land-based receiving, 1.1335).
Electronic sortable spreadsheet	FDA's illustrative template (https://www.fda.gov/media/179617/download), filled with example receiving, exempt-source receiving, repack (transformation) and shipping rows. Firms are not required to use this specific template (21 CFR 1.1455).
FTL item declaration	Four example items: romaine, spinach and tomatoes are on the list; whole-head green cabbage is not, per FDA's list text opened for this pack.
Exemption screen and how-to	Intake questions from 21 CFR 1.1305, including the previous-3-year average for the $25,000 produce-farm test, kill-step and written-agreement conditions, and a short client how-to. The supplier decides.
Mock 24-hour FDA records request	A worked example for all romaine shipped 11/04/2026–11/05/2026: a filtered, sortable shipping sheet and a back-trace of lot EMPD-RP-ROM-110426 through work order WO-EX-3104 to receiving lot EV-ROM-110126. Who answers, how the sheet is filtered, and who checks it is in plan section 1. This is example data, not a live request.

Compliance date and rule-change risk (pages opened November 21, 2026)

The 2022 final rule's compliance date is January 20, 2026. FDA proposed an extension to July 20, 2028 (90 Federal Register 38084, August 7, 2025; still a proposed rule on the Federal Register page opened this session). The Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026 (Public Law 119-37), section 780, directed that no funds appropriated by that Act may be used to administer or enforce the rule before July 20, 2028. The statute text was opened on govinfo and on congress.gov. FDA has said it intends to comply with that directive. This desk did not find a published final extension rule. **July 20, 2028 is not treated here as a finalized Code of Federal Regulations date.** Retailer requests can fall earlier.

FDA notice 2026-20720 (91 Federal Register 64656, October 9, 2026) is a public-meeting and comment notice (meeting November 6, 2026; comments close December 6, 2026). It does not change the Food Traceability Rule or the Code of Federal Regulations. Templates are versioned, and the upkeep plan includes updates if a later rule or guidance actually changes the requirements.

What a real job would still need

- The supplier's own product list, lot-code scheme, suppliers, customers and records — not example data.
- The supplier's signature on the plan and declarations, and the supplier's decision on exemptions.
- A food-safety review of the filled pack (not done on this sample; a Preventive Controls Qualified Individual is not legally required for these records).

Sources (opened this session): FDA rule page; FDA Food Traceability List; FDA electronic sortable spreadsheet template; FDA distribution-center plan example; 21 CFR 1.1310, 1.1315, 1.1320, 1.1305, 1.1325–1.1350, 1.1455 (eCFR); 90 Federal Register 38084; 91 Federal Register 64656 (notice 2026-20720). A fuller source list and file hashes are available on request.