

Mazzetta Company has also been an industry leader in requiring the replenishing of mangrove ecosystems to preserve the biodiversity of these coastal ecosystems. Specifically, Mazzetta strongly advocates that new shrimp farms are not to be developed within mangrove ecosystems. Realizing that some mangrove must be removed for canals when new shrimp farms are sited behind mangroves, a reforestation commitment of no net loss of mangroves is maintained.



Given the preceding, Mazzetta Company stands firmly behind its decision to offer Seamazz® brand raw and cooked premium shrimp, and warm water farm-raised shrimp among its product line.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.gaalliance.org/>

<http://www.aquaculturecertification.org/>

❖ **Mitigating Our Footprint**

As was initially discussed in our 2009 Report, greater efficiency can be achieved through many forms. In 2009 we discussed the elimination of simple case strapping as a way to reduce our use of plastics, our emissions in transport, and even marginally lower our costs. While we didn't anticipate many would view that minor change in efficiency as monumental, it effectively demonstrated our thought process in evaluating our operations and the possibilities that may exist to streamline and mitigate our footprint.

In June 2010 Mazzetta Company took another step in this effort when it began offering iGPS pallets in place of wooden pallets to all of our customers. Making the switch to iGPS pallets, although more costly, is a really great demonstration of how a business decision can in a longer view be both sound economically as well as environmentally. Two of the chief advantages of iGPS pallets are that they're traceable and recyclable. In terms of traceability, iGPS pallets can be tracked by their RFID tag. By using iGPS's RFID-tagged pallet pool, Mazzetta Company and their customers have an improved ability to track the location of each unitized load of product throughout the supply chain. This improvement bolsters a key component in ensuring food safety and the ability to implement a necessary product recall.



From an environmental perspective, iGPS pallets are 30 percent lighter than their wood counterparts, which results in greater transport efficiency and a significant reduction in carbon emissions. In addition, unlike wood, iGPS plastic pallets do not require fumigation or heat-treatment, which further reduces energy consumption and emissions throughout the production chain. Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, iGPS pallets are 100 percent recyclable, and will never end up in a landfill.

Although iGPS pallets are more costly, when we take a longer view of the costs; both to our business and to our planet, the benefits of iGPS far outweigh conventional pallets and provide another great opportunity for Mazzetta Company to reduce its' footprint on the environment.

❖ **U.S. Import and Food Safety Policy**

Mazzetta Company maintains a strong presence in Washington, D.C., within the federal agencies, and on Capitol Hill. We believe firmly that to assume a leadership role in our industry we must have the ability to speak with our own voice where decisions are made on the most important policy issues of the day. Changes in *import law and food safety and inspection* are two key policy areas being considered for change in the halls of the U.S. Congress and federal agencies. In particular, we expect the federal government to continue to look closely at the issues of transshipment, country of origin, and labor and human rights issues abroad. In our view, these issues are critically important in terms of maintaining the integrity of our industry and its products, a level playing field for industry competitors, and also in terms of guarding against the potential for unintended consequences and interruption of supply. In this regard, Mazzetta Company works closely with our Congressional delegation, key Committees of jurisdiction, and policy-makers within the federal agencies to serve as a sounding board on policy issues and an on-the-ground contact abroad to help them fully understand how proposed policy changes may work in application.

Forthcoming changes in *U.S. food safety policy* have been well documented, and Mazzetta Company has been fully engaged in these policy discussions for over three years. We have been fortunate that one of the leading voices in this discussion at the federal level is Senator Richard Durbin of Illinois. Having our senator at the heart of this policy debate has positioned Mazzetta Company well in terms of having a platform. If things go as expected, it is likely to see food safety reform legislation passed by Congress sometime in late 2010 or early 2011. As a company that prides itself on exceptionally high standards, we have long been strong an advocate for a high bar in terms of food safety. The current U.S. food safety model is a risk-based approach to inspection, and if that is to continue there is significant value in working

