

Matthew Botos is the vice-president of the Illinois Science and Technology Coalition. He is also the former director of the Illinois Center for Food Safety and Technology, a non-profit consortium of Illinois food companies, regulatory personnel and academicians focused on food safety and the advancement of science and technology for both local and global food sources. As director, Botos managed and administered statewide outreach programs involving the training and education of industry, regulatory, and academic institutions.

Concurrent with his responsibilities as director of the Illinois Food Safety Center, he was also executive director of the Illinois Biotechnology Industry Organization (IBIO). Botos helped public and private organizations navigate through state and federal issues ranging from genetically modified crops to stem cell research and drug pricing.

Botos was a participant in several government sponsored initiatives that included international programs for-and-with the USDA and USAID specific to the Middle East and the former Yugoslavia. He was a founding member of a Homeland Security based organization which focused on risk mitigation and management response to natural disasters, industrial accidents and acts of terrorism.

Botos brings extensive experience in aseptic manufacturing and extended shelf-life products, packaging products and heat exchanger systems. With continued interests in both new processing technologies and good manufacturing practice, Botos continues to work with food and life science companies adapt to the ever changing landscape and challenge of combating both intentional and unintentional food supply contamination.

Botos received his bachelors of science in biological engineering from Purdue University with an emphasis in thermodynamics and kinetic modeling of foods and pharmaceuticals. Botos is a former officer at the Institute of Food Technologist, a member of a business advisory board for The Civilian Research and Development Foundation, a member of the Illinois Agricultural Task Force, currently on a short term appointment as a scientist for the Department of Energy and a senior advisor for the Illinois Science and Technology Coalition.