MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CALIFORNIA

CASE STUDY

Equipment Qualification of New Cultured Meat Facility

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Why CAI?

CAI were introduced to the company via a mutual contact. The project leadership had limited experience in new facility build out or Food GMP Regulations. After several months of working with the client to develop a relationship and show them our skills in Food GMP, we were awarded the contract.

Project Overview

The project involved performing equipment and utility qualification for a new pilot plant for the manufacture of meat products using common cell culturing equipment and processes used in the Biotech industry.

Challenges

The primary challenge was ensuring that Food GMPs were being met along with USDA requirements for the downstream parts of the process.

Equipment was specified and ordered without a thorough, documented list of requirements. This made identifying the critical control points difficult.

Many of the utilities were undersized and once commissioning was started (or in some case IOQ execution, issues with equipment specifications, build, and performance were encountered.

CLIENT:
CONFIDENTIAL

LOCATION:
CALIFORNIA, USA

TIME FRAME:
9 MONTHS

CONTRACT SIZE:
~$700K

Solution

CAI provided support and education to the client about the types of things they should be requesting from their other subcontractors and their vendors.

We provided them a list of all the equipment in the facility and the type of information they should be obtaining from their vendors so that they could reach out before receipt and request the information.

Results

The cultured meat product has been approved for sale in the United States.

This project proved the importance of an expert partner throughout the equipment lifecycle of specification, purchase, commissioning, qualification, etc. For clients with limited resources or experience it is critical to implement Good Engineering Practices driving consistent documentation and making the later stages of the project more efficient.