

## FOOD SYSTEMS



The 20th century witnessed a revolution in the methods utilized by agriculture and food systems through advancements like refrigeration, industrial fertilizers, advanced machinery, and mass production techniques. This century promises equally radical change—but change that expands far beyond mere methods and touches upon the very nature of what we eat and why.

Husch Blackwell's Food Systems industry team features over 50 attorneys dedicated to understanding the profound changes in the industry and then translating that knowledge into sound, actionable legal advice. Our team covers virtually all areas of operations—from cultivation and animal production to manufacturing and retail—and brings a comprehensive perspective to bear on the specific regulatory, transactional, and litigation matters we handle.

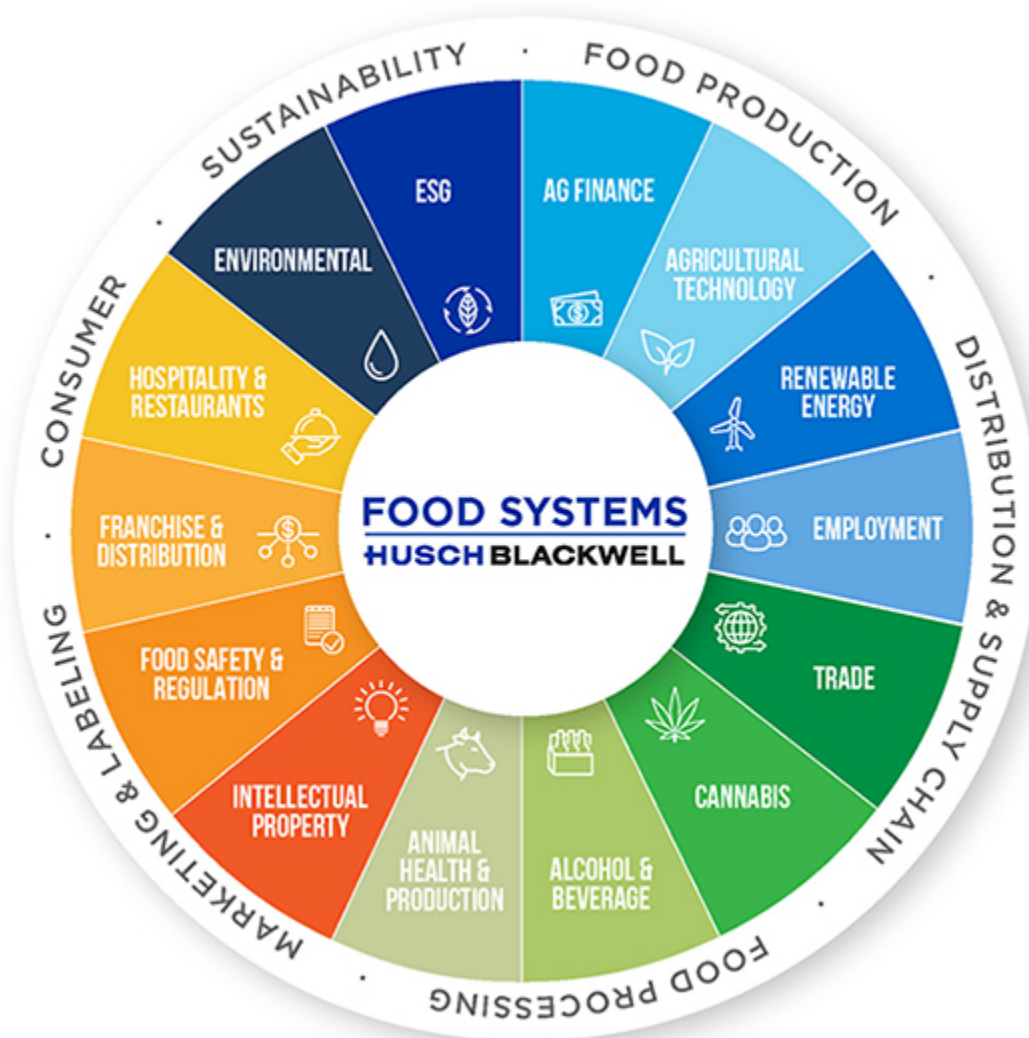
*When we were blindsided by a patent infringement lawsuit that could have put us out of business if found meritorious, we turned to our trusted legal advisors at Husch Blackwell. The team truly delivered. Their decisive action and novel approach to our situation resulted in dismissal of the lawsuit and an order from the USPTO invalidating every claim of the asserted patents.*

— Wade  
Shafer,  
American  
Simmental  
Association —

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As we tackle the multiple—and sometimes contradictory—challenges our clients face, we do so with a deep personal and professional involvement with the industry itself. Many of our attorneys grew up working on family farms; many more of us have served as key advisors to large corporations in the areas of packaged food, food manufacturing, distributors and wholesalers, seed and crop technology, and other allied fields. Our legal counsel and industry perspectives have been shaped by this composite experience and the practical knowledge we have attained over the years.

Our clients are boldly launching into novel areas of business and

introducing new products that would have been hard to imagine a generation ago, all the while balancing demands for greater sustainability and environmental stewardship from consumers and investors alike. We are with them every step of the way, creating the legal and regulatory compliance framework needed to support their innovation.

## Case Studies

### Conagra Brands

Workers from Conagra's Russellville, Arkansas facility filed a wage-and-hour class and collective action lawsuit alleging violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and the Arkansas Minimum Wage Act (AMWA), claiming that they should have been paid for time spent donning and doffing before and after shifts.

### Farmobile LLC

Farmers Edge alleged that Farmobile's co-founders—former employees of a company acquired by Farmers Edge in 2014—had misappropriated purportedly proprietary information in the development of farm data-collection and standardization technologies. Farmobile turned to Husch Blackwell to defend it in potentially enterprise-threatening litigation.

## Representative Experience

Animal Health & Production

Cannabis

CBD & Industrial Hemp

Food Safety & Regulation

Franchise & Distribution

Marijuana