Reusable plastic trays are integral to the distribution of baked goods. In North America, it is estimated that the food industry’s annual reusable plastic tray, crate, and pallet losses exceed $500 million per year.

**WHY DOES THE BAKING INDUSTRY USE REUSABLE PLASTIC TRAYS?**

- Food Safety
- Sustainable
- Cost Effective

**LIFE CYCLE OF REUSABLE PLASTIC TRAYS**

Given their durability and ease of cleaning, baking companies invest substantially in reusable plastic trays. The loss of reusable plastic trays will result in many negative consequences and inefficiencies for the baking company.

**THEFT OF THE REUSABLE PLASTIC TRAYS OCCURS IN A FEW DIFFERENT SETTINGS:**

- **Criminal organizations** – Organizations that are engaged in illegal regrinding operations
- **Corporate theft** - Some companies try to evade capital expenditure costs by stealing other companies’ reusable plastic trays
- **Improper retail use or disposal** – The retailer uses the reusable plastic trays for a different purpose than is intended

Baking companies are serving as model environmental stewards by investing in reusable plastic trays for distribution. Due to widespread theft of the reusable plastic trays in the baking industry, we need legislative action to increase the penalties for this crime.