

31st May 2010 - Paris, France

CanadaGAP meets with recognition from GFSI

CanadaGAP has been successfully benchmarked against the GFSI Guidance Document and met with full recognition, it was announced today.

31st May 2010 - The Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), managed by The Consumer Goods Forum, announced today that the On-Farm Food Safety Programme (OFFS) known as the CanadaGAP scheme, managed by **The Canadian Horticultural Council (CHC)**, based in Ottawa, Canada, has been given full recognition by the Global Food Safety Initiative Board of Directors.

The programme consists of national food safety standards and a certification system for the safe production, storage and packing of fresh fruits and vegetables. The CanadaGAP scheme has been recognized by GFSI for **certification options B & C** and the recognition covers the common food safety requirements that run through the six different commodity specific modules.

This benchmarking process has been completed using an internationally accepted set of food safety requirements, based on industry best practice and sound science, which are developed through a consensus building process by key stakeholders in the food supply chain. These requirements can be found in the **GFSI Guidance Document Version 5**, which is freely available for download on www.mygfsi.com.

Jürgen Matern, Chairman of the Global Food Safety Initiative Board of Directors and Vice President, Strategic Quality Management, Metro AG said "The current widespread use of this scheme in Canada will facilitate the acceptance and integration of the GFSI principle 'Certified Once, Accepted Everywhere' and contribute significantly to driving the enhancement of food safety in the supply chain."

For more information on the CanadaGAP scheme, go to www.canadagap.ca

About GFSI

The GFSI, managed by the Consumer Goods Forum, was set up in 2000 to pursue continuous improvement in food safety management systems, cost efficiency in the supply chain and, above all, safe food for consumers worldwide. For more information, please visit www.mygfsi.com.

About CanadaGAP

CanadaGAP is an on-farm food safety program consisting of national food safety standards and a certification system for the safe production, storage and packing of fresh fruit and vegetables. CanadaGAP is managed by the Canadian Horticultural Council, a national industry association representing over 20,000 producers and packers.

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The Consumer Goods Forum

The Consumer Goods Forum is an independent global parity-based Consumer Goods network. It brings together the CEOs and senior management of around 650 retailers, manufacturers, service providers and other stakeholders across 70 countries.

The Forum was created in June 2009 by the merger of CIES - The Food Business Forum, the Global Commerce Initiative (GCI) and the Global CEO Forum. The Consumer Goods Forum is governed by its Board of Directors, which includes an equal number of manufacturer and retailer CEOs and chairpersons. Forum member companies have combined sales of EUR 2.1trillion.

The Forum provides a unique global platform for thought leadership, knowledge exchange and networking between retailers, manufacturers and their partners on collaborative, non-competitive issues. Its strength lies in the privileged access it offers to the key players in the sector as well as in the development and implementation of best practices along the value chain.

It has a mandate from its members to develop common positions on key strategic and practical issues affecting the consumer goods business and to focus on non-competitive collaborative process improvement. With its headquarters in Paris and its regional offices in Washington, D.C., Singapore, Tokyo and Shanghai, The Consumer Goods Forum serves its members throughout the world.

This press release is also available on the website <http://www.theconsumergoodsforum.com>

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