



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Quality Chekd Names Hiland Dairy Foods Company of Little Rock, Arkansas, Winner of Prestigious Irving B. Weber Award

***Quality Chekd commends regional dairy for superior business leadership, quality, sustainability
and more.***

AUSTIN, Texas, Nov. 7, 2018 — Quality Chekd Dairies, Inc., an organization that provides dairy processors with services to improve business success and production quality, is pleased to announce that Hiland Dairy Foods Company of Little Rock, Arkansas, is the 2018 recipient of the Irving B. Weber Award, the highest honor for overall quality throughout the Quality Chekd organization. This award honors Hiland Dairy's commitment to quality excellence in the categories of leadership, culture, production, sustainability and business ethics.

Hiland Dairy received the award during the awards gala at the 2018 QCS Leadership Conference on Nov. 6. The dairy is well-versed in what it takes to win the Irving B. Weber Award and has been named an award finalist several times in the past. Most recently, the plant in Springfield, Missouri, won the prestigious Weber Award in 2013. Hiland Dairy also won two 2018 QCS Outstanding Marketing Awards in the Outstanding Marketing Campaign and Best Digital Marketing categories.

A joint venture between Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc., and Dairy Farmers of America, Hiland Dairy operates under the direction of Gary Aggus, president and CEO. A longtime Quality Chekd member, Hiland Dairy is a full-service regional dairy, that provides a wide array of products, including milk, buttermilk, eggnog, ice cream, yogurt, cottage cheese, sour cream and dips, half and half, whipping cream, butter, and cheese. Hiland Dairy also produces and distributes fresh juices, lemonade, fruit punch, Red Diamond Tea, YoPhoria Smoothies, a full line of iced coffee, lactose-free milk, organic milk, almond milk and soy milk.

Hiland Dairy attributes its continued success to its commitment to daily total quality improvement, an effort that employees at all levels are dedicated to upholding.

The three-day QCS Leadership Conference is an annual event hosted by Quality Chekd and QCS Purchasing. The conference provides a forum where food and beverage manufacturers and suppliers from throughout the United States and South America learn new information, ideas and strategies for remaining competitive in the consumer packaged goods (CPG) industry. This year's conference featured keynote speakers, interactive group workshops, educational sessions and business meetings discussing how members can overcome industry challenges, adapt to the rapidly changing market and reinvent for the future.

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In addition, members and supply partners were recognized at an awards gala during the conference for production excellence, marketing excellence and outstanding service to the industry.

About QCS Purchasing, LLC

QCS Purchasing, LLC, is a member-owned, not-for-profit supply-chain solutions provider for the food and beverage industry. More than 150 national supplier-partners provide solutions in a wide variety of categories. By aggregating purchases of common supplies, QCS Purchasing provides members with access to high-quality goods and services at the lowest possible total cost. QCS Purchasing has nearly 500 member companies, and, since 2005, the number of purchases QCS Purchasing manages has continually increased year over year. To learn about QCS Purchasing, please visit

www.qcspurchasing.com

About Quality Chekd Dairies, Inc.

Quality Chekd works on behalf of dairy processors by providing them with services to improve business success, as well as providing consumers with safe, delicious dairy products. Food safety is first, and Quality Chekd has established quality assurance (QA) measures and evaluations, laboratory resources, and employee training and planning that include and surpass government regulations. Members have access to human resources tools, marketing trends and information, and purchasing opportunities to help them maintain costs. All of these services are part of the Quality Chekd trademark, which signifies product excellence. For more information about the Quality Chekd organization or membership, please visit

www.qchekd.com.

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