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## **SARGENTO ANNOUNCES CHANGES IN THE FOOD INGREDIENTS DIVISION**

**PLYMOUTH, Wis. (June 26, 2009)** – Sargento Foods Inc. announces the retirement of Dick Williamson and the promotion of Mike McEvoy within the Food Ingredients Division.

Williamson will be retiring from his position as Vice President of Sales for Food Ingredients after more than twenty-eight years with Sargento. Williamson joined Sargento in 1981 as a Regional Sales Manager. Since that time, he has served in a variety of capacities and roles, including Vice President of Sales for Food Service, Vice President of Sales for Specialty Foods and Divisional Sales Manager. In recognition of his commitment and successes while at Sargento, Williamson also received the Sargento Founder’s Ring in 2007, which is awarded to long-term employees who demonstrate significant contributions to the company, and surpass company expectations.

Mike McEvoy has been appointed as Vice President of Sales for Food Ingredients, and will replace Williamson after his retirement. Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> and extending through November, McEvoy and Williamson will serve together for a transition period to assist in the delegation of all sales leadership responsibilities to McEvoy moving forward.

“We deeply appreciate all of the things Dick Williamson has done for this company, and we wish him well in his retirement,” said Lou Gentine, chairman and chief executive officer of Sargento. “We are also confident that Mike McEvoy will continue to serve as a vital asset to our family and company’s future growth in his new role.”

For the past two years, McEvoy has served as the Vice President of Portionables Integration, where he provided invaluable insights for Portionables’ manufacturing capabilities, as well as customer interactions. In addition to this position, he has also served as General Manager of Portionables over the past year, with direct supervision of operations, accounting and human resources. Previously, McEvoy held a number of assignments at Sargento in the areas of transportation, manufacturing, promotion management and marketing. McEvoy earned his master’s degree from Cardinal Stritch University and his bachelor’s degree from St. Norbert College.

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Additional information may be obtained by contacting Rory Swikle at 312-755-6207 or via email at [rswikle@wheatleytimmons.com](mailto:rswikle@wheatleytimmons.com).

Sargento Foods Inc. has demonstrated its passion for cheese and cheese-based solutions throughout its history. Founded in 1953 in Plymouth, Sargento is a leading manufacturer, packager and marketer of natural shredded, sliced and snack cheeses, cheese appetizers, ingredients and sauces. Sargento is owned and operated by the Gentine family, and has net sales of \$900 million.

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