



From Producer to the World

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For Immediate Release

Global Pulse Processor Acquires Missouri River Ag Processing Facility in Williston

One of the fastest growing pulse processors in the world continues to augment its global reach. Saskcan Pulse Trading Inc., head offices in Regina, Saskatchewan Canada, announced that its U.S. subsidiary, United Pulse Trading Inc. has acquired the Missouri River Ag Processing pulse processing facility in Williston, North Dakota, from the Knudson Family, who also operate Superior Grains Inc. in Crosby, North Dakota. With this acquisition, United Pulse Trading Inc. takes the first step in its expansion plans in the U.S. with more facilities planned for the near future.

The United Pulse Trading Inc. facility will focus on processing of pulses such as peas, lentils and chickpeas with future plans to expand into durum wheat milling for bulgur (cracked wheat). The company will immediately begin to refurbish the existing plant to feature 120,000 metric ton capacity with a multi-line processing and splitting factory. Refurbishment of the facility is slated to be completed for the 2007 fall harvest season.

United Pulse Trading is part of the Saskcan Pulse Trading/Arbel group operating 15 pulse and food processing plants in Canada and Turkey, processing and exporting approximately 450,000 metric tons to 65 countries around the globe.

"The acquisition of this facility really positions us well in terms of access to the key pulse growing areas in the state, as well as the existing Burlington Northern Santa Fe mainline rail service. It certainly opens up freight options for us to our customers over seas", said Murad Al-Katib, President of Saskcan Pulse Trading Inc of Canada. " We have been looking at North Dakota expansion for a number of months focusing on the Northern Plains Commerce Center in Bismarck. This move in Williston made sense to kick start our expansion. It also really complements our business in Canada.

The newly refurbished United Pulse Trading facility will significantly increase the splitting capacity of the U.S. industry and will provide growers a new outlet to market their products. The acquisition will play an important role for economic development in the Williston area creating 20 new jobs and further solidifying the region's role as a leader in value-added agriculture.

"This location fits with our overall company strategy of 'From Producer to the World'. Basically we like to locate our facilities where we can be close to the local growers and develop long-term relationships with them. This area of the state, stretching into eastern Montana is in keeping with this philosophy. We have done this everywhere we have located our facilities. Relationship is key in our business, whether at the grower level or with our customers over seas and around the world", said Al-Katib who will serve as the chairman of United Pulse Trading Inc.

North Dakota is the U.S. leader in the growing of pulse crops with approximately 750,000 acres. Pulse crops include lentils, both green and red, peas, both yellow and green, and chickpeas and are a main food staple for much of the world including India, Africa and the Middle East.

"We feel this area is key to the continued growth of our business and we are looking forward it."

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Saskcan Company History



and Arbel, as sister companies, are the largest pulse splitters in the world by capacity.

Saskcan Pulse Trading Inc. was founded in 2001 on the concept of “*From producer to the world*”. In five short years, Saskcan finds itself in the position of being the world leader in the exporting of red split lentils, and one of the world’s leading exporters of pulse crops. Saskcan Pulse

Saskcan Pulse was founded by the Arslan brothers, principles of Arbel Pulse, Grain Industry and Trade S.A. and Murad Al-Katib. Saskcan now operates three processing facilities in Saskatchewan, Canada, the heart of Canada's largest production area for pulse crops, accounting for more than 96% of Canada's lentil crop. Saskcan is headquartered in Regina, Saskatchewan where red lentil splitting activities are the primary focus. Other facilities include Rosetown, Saskatchewan and Aberdeen, Saskatchewan. The company features a full line of pulse products for export including Red Split Lentils, Chickpeas, Laird/Eston/Richlea Lentils, Yellow Split Peas, Green Split Peas, and Split Desi Chickpeas. With a staff compliment of almost 100 people, Saskcan’s facilities include cleaning, calibration, peeling, splitting and color sorting lines. Saskcan facilities operate with an annual capacity of 225,000MT.



Key elements to the success of Saskcan have been a focus on relationships with growers to develop and nurture the growing activities of pulses to ensuring that adequate product is available for processing and relationship with buyers to develop commercial export markets for Canadian pulses. Through a combined marketing effort with both groups and a key focus on transportation and logistics, Saskcan has led the way in global pulse exports.

Saskcan is an active exporter to all geographic regions servicing a network of customers in the Americas, Europe and Asia. Saskcan’s mission statement is based on the operational philosophy that has made Saskcan and its sister concern in Turkey, Arbel , a global leader in food products:

“ To provide a clean and quality product with reliable and timely shipments, competitive pricing and flexible delivery arrangements for bulk, bagged and packed pulses and foodstuffs. Our commitment to supply guaranteed quality to our clients is ensured through comprehensive production, execution and quality control.”

Some of the business awards received by Saskcan Pulse include:

- Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce Award for Business Excellence (ABEX)- Business of the Year for 2004
- Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership Exporter of the Year 2003
- Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce ABEX - Best New Venture – 2003

In October 2004 Murad Al-Katib was selected as the Prairie Regional Winner of the Ernst and Young Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year for 2004. In May 2005, Murad was named one of Canada’s Top 40 under 40 years old in Canada by the Caldwell Partners and the Globe and Mail. Murad serves as President of the Canadian Special Crops Association, Vice-Chair of Pulse Canada and is a member of the Canadian Government’s SME Advisory Board for the Department of Foreign Affairs, International Trade Canada.

For more information please visit www.saskcan.com

Arbel Company History



Arbel Pulse, Grain Industry and Trade S.A. was founded in 1980 in Mersin Turkey. Its predecessor company was Arslan Society Collective, the Arslan family company founded in 1950. Arbel is a leading supplier of pulses, oilseeds, grains and foodstuffs to the domestic Turkish market and the global marketplace.

The Arbel Group employs over 1000 people in its production, warehousing and marketing offices. Arbel owns and operates one of the leading splitting, packing and calibrating factories for pulses in Turkey. The factory is equipped with the latest technologies available for color sorting and processing pulses. The splitting capacity of the Turkish factory exceeds 300,000 MT annually. Through its extensive experience in production, the company has developed capability to manufacture its own cleaning and splitting equipment and has refined its splitting process to meet consumer quality standards.



Four Arslan brothers direct the company all with strong business and engineering backgrounds:

- Mahmut Arslan: Chairman: a mechanical engineer with thirty plus years directing the company. Mr. Arslan is the Chairman of the Mediterranean Exporters Union and the Turkish Union of Exporters.
- Huseyin Arslan: General Manager, an electrical engineer with over 20 years operational experience in the company. Mr. Arslan heads up the marketing function for the company.
- Hasan Arslan, Production Manager: a mechanical engineer who heads up the technical production, factory operations and design.
- Ali Arslan: engineer

In addition to the above mentioned pulse processing facility, the company operates fourteen production facilities in the areas of pulses, durum wheat milling, pasta, vegetable oil and tobacco processing. 65,000MT factory to produce cracked wheat (Bulgur) for human consumption. The company also runs 1,000,000 sq. feet of warehousing space. Locations include production facilities in Mersin and offices in Mersin Free Zone, Turkey, Mardin Free Zone, Turkey and a number of Liaison Offices covering major client destinations including North Africa, Iran, Iraq and the Indian Sub-continent.

The company recognizes that marketing and production quality are keys to success. Within its marketing force, the company has language capabilities in English, Turkish, Arabic, Spanish, German, Italian, French, Greek, Hindi and Kurdish. Its experienced marketing force assists the company to solidify its position as a global marketing leader in pulse crops and foodstuffs.

With respect to quality, the company has received the following quality assurance certificates for all products:

- ISO 9002 awarded by German Government accredited RVTUV Institute
- TSEK awarded by Turkish Standards Institute approved quality for production of food stuff (standards harmonized with the European Union)
- GAFTA (Grain and Feed Trade Association): UK based organization granted "A" Class producer and Trading Company Membership Certificate. Other "A" class members of GAFTA include Cargill, ADM etc.
- Ministry of Industry Authorized Production Certificate, Government of Turkey

In addition to international commercial business, Arbel is a leading supplier of foodstuffs to international donor agencies for food aid to developing countries. Arbel has supplied to agencies of the United Nations, Food and Agriculture organization (FAO), World Food Program, Red Cross, CARE and World Health Organization.

For more information please visit www.arbel.com.tr