

Global Opportunities For US Dairy Ingredients Highlighted At Annual Dairy Ingredients Symposium

San Francisco, CA—US dairy ingredients are poised to leverage global opportunities to help food and beverage manufacturers feed a growing world population, according to presentations at the 14th annual Dairy Ingredients Symposium, held here recently.

More than 100 attendees from 17 states and 12 countries attended the symposium.

Among the highlights from symposium presentations:

- **Global marketplace for dairy ingredients:** An aging world population of almost half a billion seniors age 65 and older is putting demands on food and beverage manufacturers to take a closer look at their nutrition needs to help combat chronic diseases.

Whey protein and milk protein ingredients are well-positioned to address these needs.

- **New dairy ingredients processing:** Complex oligosaccharides found in cow's milk can be filtered from the whey stream to mimic human milk functionalities. Research continues to better understand the potential nutritional benefits and commercially scalable processes for the creation of novel dairy ingredients.

- **Overcoming hurdles to US innovation and competitiveness:** Mike Matthews, Ph.D., a food industry consultant based in New Zealand, indicated that worldwide demand for dairy products is increasing at 2.5 percent per year. Globalization studies, commissioned by the Innovation Center for US Dairy, noted that few countries are as well-positioned as the US to help meet this growth.

"The success of the US whey products industry shows that American dairy companies are capable of being competitive on an international level," Matthews said. "Opportunities exist for the industry to compete with more differentiated products in the future."

- **Opportunities in nutrition and health:** Recently in the \$23 billion medical nutrition segment, milk protein concentrate/isolate and whey protein ingredients were used most often in reformulated products and new product introductions. Opportunities for market share growth exist for US dairy ingredient suppliers in the enteral nutrition market with continued investment in high-quality clinical trials to support the effectiveness of dairy proteins and development of partnerships with key manufacturers.

The Dairy Ingredients Symposium is sponsored by the US Dairy Export Council, the Dairy Products Technology Center at Cal Poly State University, the California Dairy Research Foundation and GEA Process Engineering. 