



MEXICO – NEWS SCAN

Agri-Food Infrastructure Development in Mexico – 2009/06

The Alberta Mexico Office has confirmed that as of June 2009, two new agri-food facilities were inaugurated by international companies in the state of Jalisco, investing a combined total of US\$34 million. Heinz has set up a baby food plant and Nestle a distribution centre.

Heinz's new baby food plant is located in Tlaquepaque, near the capital Guadalajara. Heinz will produce all its line of baby food in this facility and the majority of its production will be destined for export to Central and South America.

The newly improved Nestle distribution centre in Lagos de Moreno has a total storage area of approximately 858,000 sq. ft and a total of 114 shipping/receiving gates for dry, frozen and refrigerated goods.

In Lagos de Moreno, the Government of Jalisco is also in the midst of constructing a Value Added Centre, similar to Alberta's Food Processing and Development Centre in Leduc. The Value Added Centre of Lagos de Moreno will be a key element in the development of the agri-food sector in Mexico and will be useful in attracting new investments from Nestle, as well as other trans-national companies to this industrial region.

Alberta companies currently exporting or beginning to target Mexico can soon become suppliers to these two new global operations from Heinz and Nestle but also make use of the future Value Added Centre to further develop products suitable for the Jalisco and Mexican market. The vibrancy of agri-food development in Jalisco certainly mirrors Alberta's and our industry is bound to find fitting opportunities for their products and operations in the Lagos de Moreno region, much like Heinz and Nestle have.

If you would like to discuss current opportunities in Mexico, contact Marta Gomez-Wu at 780-427-6057 or at marta.gomez-wu@gov.ab.ca

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