



FOOD AND CONSUMER PRODUCTS INDUSTRY WELCOMES HISTORIC HARPER AND OBAMA PLAN

FCPC Commends Government for Movement on Key Canadian Initiatives

Toronto, Dec, 7, 2011 – Canada’s food and consumer products manufacturers welcome today’s historic announcement by Prime Minister Harper and President Obama as their leadership lays the groundwork to bring more innovative product choices to Canadians, save taxpayers money, help Canadian businesses compete on the global stage and maintain high-quality jobs here in Canada.

Food & Consumer Products of Canada (FCPC) commends the government for moving forward on strategically aligning food safety approaches and inspections between our two countries, which will reduce unnecessary duplicative inspections. FCPC also supports the first-ever pilot trusted trader program between the Canadian and U.S. Governments for food processors. This exciting initiative will allow companies with low-risk products and strong compliance standards to more efficiently move their goods across the border.

FCPC says this initiative is about strategically aligning regulations where it makes the most sense for Canadians and maintaining the world-renowned safety and quality of our products. The industry’s number one priority remains the safety and the quality of the products we manufacture, and because of that, Canadians enjoy the some of the safest products in the world – and will continue to do so.

QUOTES

“The plan released by Prime Minister Harper and President Obama is an exciting, and much needed step forward that will save taxpayers money and benefit Canadians with innovative products that are made in Canada. It will also help boost the economy, enable Canadian companies to better compete on the global stage, while maintaining Canadian sovereignty and the world-class safety and quality of the products Canadians trust.”

- Nancy Croitoru, President and CEO, Food & Consumer Products of Canada

QUICK FACTS

- The food and consumer products manufacturing sector leads all Canadian manufacturing sectors in employment – employing nearly 300,000 Canadians from coast-to-coast.
- Almost \$100 million of agriculture and agri-food products move across the border between our two countries each day.

For more information:

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Food & Consumer Products of Canada (FCPC) is the largest industry association representing Canadian-operated food, beverage and consumer product companies that make and market national and retailer brands sold through retail and foodservice outlets. We provide leadership and support to our members to advance industry's growth, leading to the prosperity of our industry and the enrichment of Canadians' lives. Our members have a record of embracing world-class regulatory standards and are governed by hundreds of federal and provincial pieces of legislation, as well as thousands of regulations and self-imposed standards.

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