



The Hain Celestial Group Closes on Acquisition of College Hill Poultry - Establishes Hain Pure Protein Corporation

07/05/2005

MELVILLE, N.Y., July 5, 2005 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: HAIN), a leading natural and organic food and personal care products company, today announced the completion of the previously disclosed acquisition of the poultry processing facility assets of College Hill Poultry of Fredericksburg, PA through Hain Pure Protein Corporation, which is a joint venture with Pegasus Capital Advisors, LP, a private equity firm. Hain Celestial will control 50.1% of the joint venture.

(Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20050324/NYTH131>)

College Hill Poultry's Raised Right(TM) brand of natural and organic, free range chicken are raised on family farms and grain-fed without anti-biotics or animal by-products. The company will be led by Joseph A. DePippo, an industry veteran, as President of Hain Pure Protein Corporation. Raised Right customers include supernaturals and conventional supermarkets, natural food stores and foodservice outlets.

"Joe has the knowledge, reputation and track record within the protein category and natural meat industry to lead the growth and success of Hain Pure Protein," said Irwin Simon, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Hain Celestial Group. "Hain Pure Protein will provide us with the opportunity to expand fresh, refrigerated and frozen product offerings under our established natural and organic brands with value-added products in new and expanded channels in this fast growing category."

The Hain Celestial Group

The Hain Celestial Group (NASDAQ: HAIN), headquartered in Melville, NY, is a leading natural and organic beverage, snack, specialty food and personal care products company in North America and Europe. Hain Celestial participates in almost all natural food categories with well-known brands that include Celestial Seasonings(R), Terra Chips(R), Garden of Eatin'(R), Health Valley(R), WestSoy(R), Earth's Best(R), Arrowhead Mills(R), Hain Pure Foods(R), Hollywood(R), Walnut Acres Organic(R), Imagine Foods(R), Rice Dream(R), Soy Dream(R), Rosetto(R), Ethnic Gourmet(R), Yves Veggie Cuisine(R), Lima(R), Biomarch®(R), Grains Noirs(R), Natumi(R), JASON(R) and Zia(R) Natural Skincare. For more information, visit www.hain-celestial.com.

Safe Harbor Statement

This press release contains forward-looking statements within and constitutes a "Safe Harbor" statement under the Private Securities Litigation Act of 1995. Except for the historical information contained herein, the matters discussed in this press release are forward-looking statements that involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, which could cause our actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. These risks include but are not limited to general economic and business conditions; the ability to implement business and acquisition strategies, integrate acquisitions, and obtain financing for general corporate purposes; competition, retention of key personnel and compliance with government regulations and other risks detailed from time-to-time in the Company's reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004. The forward-looking statements made in this press release are current as of the date of this press release, and the Company does not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements.

Contact: Ira Lamel/Mary Anthes

The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.
631-730-2200

SOURCE The Hain Celestial Group

Ira Lamel, or Mary Anthes, both of The Hain Celestial Group, Inc., +1-631-730-2200