

Sodexo increases its commitment to sustainable and fair-trade purchasing

Issy-les-Moulineaux, June 16, 2010 – Sodexo, world leader in Quality of Daily Life solutions, announced two new partnerships with leading sources of sustainable and fair trade products as part of its commitment toward local host communities. The partnerships reinforce Sodexo's hot beverage "Aspretto" offer that it began serving in client workplaces two years ago.

The first is with **United Coffee** (formerly known as Drie Mollen), one of Europe's largest private coffee roasters and recent winner of the Rainforest Alliance's "Corporate Green Globe" for its "extraordinary commitment to sustainable development." United Coffee will supply Sodexo with fair trade coffee and machines for preparing high quality coffees.

A partnership also was established with **Numi**, a specialist in producing 100% naturally organic tea. Numi teas are certified as organic, kosher, halal and fair trade and its production and transportation processes focus on reducing the use of natural resources, favoring recyclable and reusable materials. Wastes are minimized and customer displays are made from bamboo. Sodexo has selected eight 100% organic teas, six of which are fair trade-certified.

"Sodexo designed and developed its Aspretto hot beverages offer as part of our sustainability commitment to balance societal and environmental goals while providing economic aid to producing countries," said Damien Verdier, Sodexo's Group Marketing Director (in charge of Offer Marketing, Client Retention, Purchasing and Sustainable Development). "We serve fair trade coffees and teas when they are available in the countries where we operate, supplied by companies like United Coffee and Numi who are accredited by internationally recognized fair trade authorities¹ for their commitments to local producers. Additionally, for each kilo of coffee purchased from these accredited producers, we have decided to donate 17 cents to STOP Hunger, Sodexo's program to fight against hunger and malnutrition worldwide. Today, we serve Aspretto to the employees of 320 client companies worldwide, mainly in the U.S., the UK, and the Netherlands. At present, we serve nearly one billion hot beverages, or 10,000 tons of coffee and tea annually and we would like to continue develop this offer in the future."

Aspretto: a sustainable solution

The Aspretto offer of high-quality coffees and teas is based on four fundamental principles: diversity, health and well-being, environmental protection and social responsibility, expressed through four tangible commitments:

- Ensure traceability of teas and coffees served to verify they are 100% naturally produced;
- Use products from local markets certified by the internationally recognized Fair Trade authorities, the Rainforest Alliance, the Fairtrade Foundation or the Soil Association;
- Reduce the amount of materials used;
- Use 100% biodegradable or recyclable packaging materials and serving utensils (cups, stirrers, napkins, etc.)

¹ Rainforest Alliance, the Fairtrade Foundation and Soil Association

Reinforcing Aspretto's offer is part of Sodexo's commitment, expressed in its strategic sustainability roadmap, the "Better Tomorrow Plan," to increase its supply of products from fair trade-certified sources by 2015. In fulfilling its commitment, Sodexo identifies products and local and international partners that meet fair trade criteria, regularly develops offers that include fair trade-certified products and encourages suppliers to become certified.

Sodexo offers an increasing range of fair trade products in countries where it operates through numerous local initiatives. In the Netherlands and South Africa, Sodexo offers a number of fair trade products in collaboration with Max Havelaar and Chiquita. In Belgium, Sodexo foodservices sites can purchase a wide variety of fair trade products certified by Oxfam, Java or Maas International including coffee, tea, fruit juices, chocolate, wine and rice.

More information on the Aspretto offer is available online at www.aspretto.sodexo.com

About Sodexo

Sodexo, world leader in Quality of Daily Life Solutions

Quality of Life plays an important role in the progress of individuals and the performance of organizations. Based on this conviction, Sodexo acts as the strategic partner for companies and institutions that place a premium on performance and employee well-being, as it has since Pierre Bellon founded the company in 1966. Sharing the same passion for service, Sodexo's 380,000 employees in 80 countries design, manage and deliver an unrivaled array of On-site Service Solutions and Motivation Solutions. Sodexo has created a new form of service business that contributes to the fulfillment of its employees and the economic, social and environmental development of the communities, regions and countries in which it operates.

Group Key Figures (as of August 31, 2009)

14.7 billion euro consolidated revenue
380,000 employees
22nd largest employer worldwide
80 countries
33,900 sites
50 million consumers served daily
7.7 billion euro market capitalization (as of June 15, 2010)

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