

PRESS RELEASE

02 June 2016

OMSCo announce appointment of independent non-executive director

The Organic Milk Suppliers Cooperative (OMSCo) is pleased to announce the appointment of Neil Kennedy as an independent non-executive director.

With 35 years of dairy experience, Neil's appointment is an important addition to the board of the rapidly expanding milk cooperative. Neil is currently also non-executive director of Belton Cheese and Ornuu UK, as well as chairman of Crediton Dairy Ltd.

His career began at Kellogg's in 1981, before moving into the dairy industry in 1987 with Unigate, where he spent well over a decade, culminating in the role of managing director of St.Ivel spreads.



He then spent three years running Tom's Confectionery Ltd, before returning to the dairy industry as managing director of The Cheese Company, which had been acquired by Milk Link, the farmers' cooperative. He took over as CEO of Milk Link in 2008, until their merger with Arla in 2012. During this period Neil was also chairman of Dairy UK (2011/12).

Speaking on behalf of the OMSCo board, Nicholas Saphir, chairman of OMSCo, said: "We're delighted to welcome Neil to the board. He brings wide-ranging and relevant experience and has led and managed change. He'll be a significant contributor to the development and governance of the cooperative as we continue to expand.

"Neil joins us during a period of significant growth. OMSCo is proud to be largest organic dairy supplier in the UK, the largest dedicated organic dairy co-operative in Europe, and the second largest dedicated organic milk co-operative in the world" says Nicholas.

“We’ve developed growth markets beyond our borders and pride ourselves on being one of the most export-orientated dairy businesses in the UK. It’s anticipated that 2016 will see our total exports of cheese, cream, whey, butter and powder increase to more than a third of our turnover. It’s experience such as Neil’s that will help us to develop, manage and exploit these opportunities.”

-Ends-

Issued by: Helen Harcombe Pinstone Communications T: 01568 617623 or M: 07890 097906

Notes to editors:

OMSCo is the UK’s largest organic dairy producer and is the only 100% organic, farmer-owned and farmer-run dairy cooperative in the UK. For more information, please visit www.omscO.co.uk.

About OMSCo:

- OMSCo has 250 farmer members spread across the UK, and is the only national 100% organic, farmer-owned and farmer-run dairy cooperative in the UK.
- OMSCo is the UK’s largest producer of organic dairy, managing 65% of the UK’s organic milk supply, and is the second largest dedicated organic dairy producer in the world.
- OMSCo is also the longest established organic dairy cooperative in the UK, now with an annual turnover of £100 million.
- OMSCo is the only European dairy company certified to USDA equivalence standards, selling UK organic dairy products to the US.
- As well as supplying the majority of the UK’s organic dairy processing needs, OMSCo has extensive experience of exporting raw milk, bulk ingredients, specialist milk ingredients and consumer products to overseas markets.