

West Liberty Foods Named SUBWAY® 2012 Vendor of the Year



Pictured from left to right: Dennis Clabby, IPC Vice President of Purchasing, Gerald Lessard, Vice President & COO, Paul Hill, West Liberty Foods Chairman, Lee Johnson, Vice President of Technical Services, Mark Spinazzola, DRS Vice President of Foodservice Sales, Ed Garrett, President & CEO, Glenn Elzey, Senior Vice President & CFO, Michael Quint, Vice President & CCO, Cindi Daufeldt, Customer Service Manager, Tim Daufeldt, Logistics Manager, Scott Schallenberger, Director of Product & Process Development, Suzanne Greco, Subway VP Research & Development.

West Liberty, Iowa (August 14, 2012) -- West Liberty Foods was named by the SUBWAY brand, and its Independent Purchasing Cooperative (IPC), as the 2012 Vendor of the Year at the recent SUBWAY convention in Orlando, Florida.

West Liberty Foods, which provides various meat products and related services to the SUBWAY chain, was cited for its work with the brand on product improvements and food safety initiatives, as well as its commitment to corporate social responsibility.

"West Liberty Foods has continued its investment in state of the art facilities, implemented the most advanced food safety protocols, demonstrated strategic vision and innovation in their collaboration with Subway and the IPC, and has achieved national recognition for its work in the area of social responsibility," said Jan Risi, President of the IPC, which is responsible for procuring products, equipment, supplies and services used in Subway restaurants. "Across the board, West Liberty has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the Subway brand and an unsurpassed level of excellence in all areas of their business."

Added Subway VP, Research and Development, Suzanne Greco, "West Liberty Foods has a strong focus on increasing efficiencies, decreasing waste and ensuring value for the Subway system. For the past 13 years, they have been a true vendor partner and a real friend to the thousands of Subway franchisees they serve."

"We are honored to receive this award, and it is celebrated by each member of our team," said Ed Garrett, President and CEO of West Liberty Foods. "As a company we push the boundaries; whether it is food safety, product development, or environmental sustainability, because it's the right thing to do. As we enter our 14th year as members of the Subway team, our partnership continues to be built on our willingness to invest in our team members and technology, and grow on the strengths of the Subway Brand."

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West Liberty Foods Named SUBWAY® 2012 Vendor of the Year, p. 2

On the Corporate Social Responsibility front, West Liberty Foods is among the first companies in the United States to have its landfill free efforts at its Mount Pleasant, Iowa, and Tremonton, Utah, facilities verified by a third party organization, a major milestone in the food industry. In fact, West Liberty Foods Tremonton facility has successfully diverted nearly 3.5 million pounds of annual waste from the local landfill while the Mount Pleasant facility has diverted more than 2 million pounds. West Liberty Foods is aggressively working towards that goal in its West Liberty, Iowa, facility as well.

West Liberty Foods also built the Hearts & Hands Children's Academy in Tremonton as a way to provide day care, as well as an educational activities and programming, for children from 6-weeks of age through 12-years-old.

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About West Liberty Foods: West Liberty Foods is a leading co-packer, private label manufacturer, and foodservice supplier of sliced deli meats and fully cooked IQF products. They supply products to many well-known retail and foodservice chains nationwide. In 2004 they became the first turkey processing facility to become ISO 14001:2004 Certified. (www.wlfoods.com)

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