

MEDIA RELEASE

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BESTON GLOBAL FOOD COMPANY LIMITED TO LAUNCH TRAINEESHIP PROGRAM

Beston Global Food Company Limited (ASX: BFC) is pleased to announce their involvement in a traineeship scheme for food production with a specific emphasis on cheese-making and dairy production.

Announcing the initiative, the Chief Executive of Beston Global Foods, Mr Jonathan Hicks, said: *“We believe that it is vitally important that these skills be developed and retained in SA, to ensure that our dairy manufacturing industry can continue to prosper and grow into the future”.*

Commenting further, Mr Hicks said *“We see this as a critical way to help industry and the South Australian community recover from the tough period of the last few years with drought, bushfires and now impacts of COVID-19, and build a path towards securing future economic growth and sustainability. The traineeship scheme is a method of helping to address industry and State growth issues and fill food production skill gaps, as well as helping to develop innovation into value-add production methods and support economic mobility to regions that have been affected by the recent downturn”.*

The scheme builds on the objectives of the SA Government to boost the number of apprenticeships and other vocational training courses on offer to help “future proof” the State with a competitive dynamic economy. The scheme also fits the Government’s plans to further increase the size of the food production sector in South Australia as the State emerges from the devastating impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic and looks to its future.

The traineeship scheme has been developed by Beston Global Foods in close collaboration with the Department for Innovation and Skills and TAFE SA and is being spear-headed at Board level by the Chair of Beston’s Sustainability and Safety Committee, Ms Petrina Coventry.



Ms Coventry has extensive international experience in developing world class vocational education programs for industry, having worked at senior levels in the USA and Asia for global food and beverage companies, Coca-Cola Company, Proctor and Gamble, and at General Electric.

Ms Coventry noted that the traineeship program had evolved from discussions about how the Company could work with the relevant South Australian Government bodies to help re-ignite work and job opportunities for the future, as the State moves into a post-Coronavirus environment.

“During the downturn which has affected all industry, the Board was challenged with the question of “what innovation and self-support could be generated to create opportunity” with the result that a plan was discussed and approved to re-establish an apprenticeship scheme at the Company’s production facilities at Murray Bridge and Jervois”, Ms Coventry said.

The Minister for Innovation and Skills, David Pisoni, welcomed the traineeship initiative being put in place by Beston Global Foods.

“I commend Beston Global Food Company for making an investment in skills development and in their industry,” Minister Pisoni said.

“The Marshall Government has made increasing apprenticeships and traineeships a priority to ensure South Australians are ready for jobs in growth industries. We are building a stronger and more stable training sector that gives students the foundation for real careers and better aligns training with industry needs”.

The Chief Executive Officer for the Committee for Adelaide, Ms Jodie Van Deventer said:

“To see this level of investment at this uncertain time, clearly demonstrates the huge amount of confidence that Beston Global Food Company has in the future of South Australia.

“South Australia’s reputation for producing safe and natural foods is renowned and Beston’s investment and job creation in the Murraylands region will provide a much-needed economic uplift while further cementing our reputation as a centre of food production globally”.

The first trainee will commence in June this year. The vocational training to be provided under the program will focus initially on cheese-making but will extend over time to include innovations in dairy nutraceutical production, particularly Lactoferrin and other value-add food initiatives which Beston Global Foods is working on.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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ABOUT BESTON GLOBAL FOOD COMPANY LIMITED

Beston Global Food Company is a proud SA multi award-winning company taking the best of Australian produce to the world with fresh milk supplied by valued Farmers. The company provides direct and indirect employment for nearly 300 people. For more information please visit:

www.bestonglobalfoods.com.au