



For Immediate Release
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Masters Gallery Foods Wins Prominent Economic Development Award

Plymouth, WI – Masters Gallery Foods, Inc. today was presented with their 2020 Community and Economic Development Award (CEDA) for their recent expansion project. The cheese-packing company won the CEDA award in the Business Retention and Expansion category, which recognizes innovative economic development projects where communities have successfully mobilized to help retain or expand an existing business whose operations are critical to the economic vitality of the community. The award was initially announced at the 2020 CEDA Awards Ceremony, which was held virtually on Sept. 16, 2020.

The CEDA Awards program was established by the Wisconsin Economic Development Association (WEDA) to celebrate businesses, projects, and organizations that are making significant contributions to Wisconsin's economy. Winners were recognized in the following six categories: Business Retention and Expansion; Economic Development Initiative; Economic Driver; Public-Private Partnership; Real Estate Redevelopment and Reuse; and Talent Attraction.

"We are honored to receive the CEDA award and to be recognized for a project that demonstrates true collaboration," said Jeff Gentine, President & CEO and Co-Owner of Masters Gallery Foods. "Expanding locally was important to us, and our vision was made possible through the joint efforts of local and state-elected officials, the Sheboygan County Economic Development Corporation and Masters Gallery Foods. We are grateful for the warm welcome extended by the Village of Oostburg and look forward to growing our business in Oostburg for many years to come."

Founded in 1974, family-owned Masters Gallery Foods serves private label, retail and foodservice customers around the world. Multiple expansions of its Plymouth, WI campus necessitated construction of a second manufacturing facility. By expanding locally in Oostburg, the company solidified its corporate culture across both locations, strengthened Sheboygan County's economy, and created 210 new jobs in the area. The project was supported by tax incremental financing and state tax credits to accelerate the \$61 million investment made by Masters Gallery Foods.

"WEDA is excited to partner with the Wisconsin League of Municipalities, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to present the CEDA Awards and celebrate the efforts of businesses such as Masters Gallery Foods that are advancing Wisconsin's economy through exciting expansion projects," said WEDA Communications Director Michael Welsh. "Masters Gallery Foods exemplifies the positive economic impact a business expansion project can have in a community."

CEDA Award sponsors include Alliant Energy; Dairyland Power Cooperative; Green Bay Packers; Insight Publications; Madison Gas & Electric; U.S. Bank; and Xcel Energy.

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