



For Immediate Release **International Production & Processing Expo**

USPOULTRY Contact: Gwen Venable, 678.514.1971, gvenable@uspoultry.org

AFIA Contact: Miranda McDaniel, 703.558.3579, mmcdaniel@afia.org

NAMI Contact: Michael Schumpp, 202.587.4251, mschumpp@meatinstitute.org

Trouw Nutrition Takes Home 2016 Feed Facility of the Year Award

ATLANTA, Ga. – Feb. 1, 2017 – The American Feed Industry Association (AFIA) announced today Trouw Nutrition USA of Neosho, Mo., as the 2016 Feed Facility of the Year (FFY) award program's overall winner. The recognition was made during AFIA's Feed Education Program held at the 2017 International Production & Processing Expo in Atlanta, Georgia.

FFY is designed to recognize overall excellence in feed manufacturing operations. It is co-sponsored by AFIA and Feedstuffs.

"Trouw's Neosho plant is committed to excellence in the manufacturing process," said Plant Manager Douglas Vanjoff. "The facility strives to meet each of our customer's needs through the use of computer-controlled systems, focusing on quality, safety and sustainability."

"We sincerely appreciate this recognition of our plant's operational excellence," said Vanjoff. "We are very proud of this facility and everything that we do. To be recognized as a leader in the industry is a testament to our team's commitment."

Trouw holds a total of six quality certifications including AFIA's Safe Feed/Safe Food Certification Program, Safe Quality Food Level Two, Fami QS, GMP+, hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP), and restricted use protein products (RUPP).

Formerly the Feed Mill of the Year award, the FFY 2016 program introduced a new format with beneficial changes to position itself as a first-class benchmarking program for the animal feed industry. AFIA represents several types of manufacturing plants within its membership, and the new format addresses all types by comparing plants in five categories: commercial dry livestock, integrator, liquid feed, pet food and premix.

Trouw topped the premix manufacturing plant category. Westway Feed Products of Dimmit, Texas, won the liquid feed plant category and Tennessee Farmer's Cooperative of LaVergne, Tenn., was named the winner of the commercial dry livestock feed plant category. Due to application numbers, the integrator feed plant and pet food plant categories did not have selected winners.

Westway Feed Products supplies liquid feed solutions globally, providing customers with resources, services, technical support and a collaborative culture to understand and meet their needs.

“The most important component of our facility is the staff,” said Phil Thomas, plant manager of Westway Feed Products’ Dimmit facility. “Their experience and dedication is what allows us to provide top-notch service and quality products.”

The Dimmit facility is Safe Feed/Safe Food certified and HACCP certified.

The goal of Tennessee Farmers Cooperative’s LaVergne plant, established in 1958, is to meet the feed and animal health needs of livestock and pet owners through quality products and expertise. The plant is Safe Feed/Safe Food certified through AFIA.

“The employees of the LaVergne feed mill are probably the most dedicated individuals that I’ve had the privilege of working with over the past 36 years,” said Bobby Brown, plant manager at Tennessee Farmer’s Cooperative’s LaVergne plant. “I personally think they deserve the recognition.”

More information on AFIA’s FFY program can be found at: <http://www.afia.org/feedmilloftheyear>.

The annual Feed Education Program, provides updates on recent regulatory changes from several federal agencies including the Department of Labor, Department of Transportation, Environmental Protection Agency, Food and Drug Administration and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Industry experts also provided insight to two hot topics for plant managers: pellet quality and product segregation in bins. The program was hosted by AFIA’s Production Compliance Committee.

###

Photo Caption:



Category winners join American Feed Industry Association at the 2017 International Production & Processing Expo’s Feed Education Program for the announcement of Feed Facility of the Year. [From left: Sarah Muirhead (Feedstuffs); Douglas Vanjoff (Trouw Nutrition); Phil Thomas (Westway Feed Products); Bobby Brown (Tennessee Farmers Cooperative); Gary Huddleston and Joel G. Newman (AFIA); and AFIA Chairman Paul Phillips]

Photo Caption:



Feed Facility of the Year winner Trouw Nutrition, Nesho, Mo., represented by Doug Vanjoff (middle), proudly shows off both category and overall awards. Also pictured: Sarah Muirhead, Feedstuffs (left), and Gary Huddleston, AFIA (right).

ABOUT AFIA

The American Feed Industry Association (AFIA) is the world's largest organization devoted exclusively to representing the business, legislative and regulatory interests of the U.S. animal feed industry and its suppliers. AFIA also is the recognized leader on international industry developments. Member-companies are livestock feed and pet food manufacturers, integrators, pharmaceutical companies, ingredient suppliers, equipment manufacturers and companies which supply other products, services and supplies to feed manufacturers.

ABOUT Feedstuffs

Feedstuffs is the leading information source for animal agriculture with offices in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and St. Charles, Illinois.

ABOUT IPPE

The International Production & Processing Expo (IPPE) is a collaboration of three shows - International Feed Expo, International Meat Expo and the International Poultry Expo - representing the entire chain of protein production and processing. The event is sponsored by the American Feed Industry Association (AFIA), North American Meat Institute (NAMI) and U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY).