

For Immediate Release

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

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

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

Meat Institute Announces Annual Awards Ceremony and Luncheon at 2016 IPPE

Inaugural Event Honors Six Industry Leaders and Features Presentation of Environmental Recognition

Awards

Washington, DC – Dec. 29, 2015 – The North American Meat Institute (NAMI) will honor industry leaders at its inaugural Annual Awards Ceremony and Luncheon at the 2016 International Production and Processing Expo (IPPE) in Atlanta, Georgia. The luncheon, which is scheduled to take place from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 26, 2016, at the Georgia World Congress Center, will feature Meat Institute Board of Directors, key industry leaders, representatives from packer and processor companies and award nominees and their families. NAMI packer and processor members are welcome to attend as part of their complimentary registration in the Members to Atlanta program. The Master of Ceremonies will be comedian and best-selling author James Cunningham, host of the television series *Eat St.*

"The Annual Awards Ceremony and Luncheon will celebrate the enormous talent and showcase the significant contributions of Meat Institute members and industry leaders," said NAMI President and CEO Barry Carpenter. "The inaugural event will provide a unique opportunity to honor the meat and poultry industry's continued commitment to service, ingenuity and improvement against the backdrop of the world's largest annual meat, poultry and feed tradeshow."

Jim Lochner, former chief operating officer at Tyson Foods, Inc., will receive the E. Floyd Forbes Award in recognition of his record of accomplishments and strong commitment to the meat industry. Kerri Gehring, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Animal Science at Texas A&M University and president of the International HACCP Alliance, will be honored with the Industry Advancement Award as a testament to her professional contributions in the areas of animal and food science education and research, which have had a significant and positive impact on the meat and poultry industry.

The Edward C. Jones Community Service Award will honor Sheldon Lavin, chairman and chief executive officer of OSI Group, LLC, for his dedication to, and active participation in, charitable organizations in the Chicago metropolitan area and the international communities in which OSI operates. Meanwhile, Joseph Sebranek, Ph.D., distinguished professor of animal science at Iowa State University, will receive the Harry L. Rudnick Educator's Award in recognition of his role as an educator of future industry leaders and his extensive research, which has advanced the meat and poultry industry's food safety and quality management systems.

Mohammad Koohmaraie, Ph.D., chief executive officer of the meat division at IEH Laboratories, is the recipient of the NAMI Foundation Scientific Achievement Award, honoring his longstanding contributions assisting the industry to produce safe and wholesome meat, and his efforts to improve meat and poultry technologies. The Supplier of the Year Award will be presented to JBT Corporation/Wolf-tec in recognition of the company's spirit of partnership with its customers and contribution to the success of the meat and poultry industry through advanced and innovative equipment design and production.

NAMI also will present the recipients of the Environmental Recognition Awards, which are given to companies that demonstrate a dedication to continuous environmental improvement, as witnessed by the development and implementation of Environmental Management Systems.

"The Meat Institute congratulates these exemplary individuals and companies for their impressive achievements" said Carpenter. "Their hard work and innovation will ensure that the industry continues to employ the highest standards and latest technology to produce wholesome, safe, nutritious products that exceed customer expectations."

The 2016 IPPE is expected to attract more than 28,000 attendees and is a collaboration of three trade shows—International Feed Expo, International Poultry Expo and International Meat Expo—representing the entire chain of protein production and processing. The event is sponsored by the American Feed Industry Association, U.S. Poultry & Egg Association and the North American Meat Institute. More information about IPPE, including registration details, lodging and education offerings, is available at www.ippexpo.org.

###

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).

ABOUT NAMI

The North American Meat Institute (NAMI) is the leading voice for the meat and poultry industry. Formed from the 2015 merger of the American Meat Institute (AMI) and North American Meat Association (NAMA), the Institute has a rich, century-long history and provides essential member services including legislative, regulatory, scientific, international and public affairs representation. NAMI's mission is to shape a public policy environment in which the meat and poultry industry can produce wholesome products safely, efficiently and profitably. Together, the Institute's members produce the vast majority of U.S. beef, pork, lamb and poultry and the equipment, ingredients and services needed for the highest quality products.

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 USPOULTRY

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY) is the all-feather organization representing the complete

spectrum of today's poultry industry, whose mission is to progressively serve member companies through research, education, communication and technical assistance. Founded in 1947, USPOULTRY is based in Tucker, Ga.