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MEDIA RELEASE

Simplot selects Costa Logistics for national chilled supply chain solution

Multinational food and agri-business company Simplot has selected Costa Logistics, one of Australia's leading third party logistics providers, to help roll out its expansion strategy into the chilled foods sector.

Simplot's new range of fresh pasta and sauces are produced at Bendigo and Footscray and delivered to retailers.

According to Danny Mellon, National Logistics and Planning Manager at Simplot, there was no combination in the delivery process between the fresh pasta and the sauces, resulting in inefficient distribution.

"We wanted to correct this and so looked to Costa Logistics for a solution. Costa Logistics was chosen due to the company's skills in handling quick turnaround products and expertise in handling high volume perishable," said Mr Mellon.

"Costa Logistics' chilled supply chain solution offered us the opportunity to ship production in bulk to a single consolidation point where combined orders of pasta and sauces are picked and shipped to customers."

Costa Logistics' General Manager of Business Development, Ross Walter, says that Simplot's selection of Costa Logistics is an affirmation of the company's growing reputation in providing top notch logistics services in the chilled foods sector.

"We look forward to providing Simplot with a more efficient delivery method for its products and to partnering with Simplot on furthering its strategy into the chilled foods area," said Mr Walter.

"Working for blue-chip companies such as Simplot is part of Costa Logistics' growth strategy."

The project will see Simplot products moved to Costa Logistics' distribution centres as they are produced and the logistics provider co-ordinating outbound transport of the products to a range of Victorian and interstate delivery points.

Costa Logistics expects to service about 20 customer locations with approximately 10,000 cases per week of product on behalf of Simplot.

The Costa Logistics solution will operate on the Manhattan warehouse management system which Costa Logistics recently spent \$4 million upgrading.

The Manhattan system is fully EDI interfaced and will enable Simplot and Costa Logistics to communicate seamlessly giving both parties advanced visibility of inbound stock, the ability to plan the resources to handle it as well as pick the product and dispatch it to a tight timetable.

Costa Logistics is also working on a supply chain intelligence dashboard for Simplot allowing for Simplot to have access to real time stock visibility and streamline processes.

Release Ends

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About Costa Logistics

Costa Logistics is one of Australia's leading supply chain organisations working with supermarkets, manufacturers, growers and importers. Its expertise is in the development and management of supply chain solutions for temperature controlled and ambient products.

It has major distribution centres in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Perth and Devonport utilised by major manufacturers and retailers. Costa Logistics has built its reputation on class-leading safety and a unique culture built on values, safety and satisfaction. Costa Logistics is a division of the Costa Group of Companies. The Costa Group is one of Australia's largest diversified family companies with operations in grain and fresh produce as well as third party logistics. It has annual revenue of \$1.4 billion and more than 8,000 employees in nearly 50 locations around the country. For more information go to www.costalogistics.com.au