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Governor Beshear Announces Major Expansion for Bremner Food Group in Princeton

National supplier of private label cookies and crackers to increase production lines and capacity, invest $62.1 million and create 111 new jobs

PRINCETON, Ky. (March 2, 2010) – Gov. Steve Beshear today joined company and community leaders in Princeton to announce the expansion of Bremner Food Group, the nation's largest supplier of private label cookies and crackers. Bremner Food Group, a subsidiary of Ralcorp Holdings, will install new production lines, relocate production lines from other facilities and increase its warehouse space to handle increased capacity. The expansion project will result in 111 new full-time jobs and represents an investment of $62.1 million in the Commonwealth.

"Kentucky is delighted that Bremner Food Group has chosen Princeton as the site of this major expansion, creating 111 new employment opportunities and investing more than $62 million in the Commonwealth," said Gov. Beshear. "Bremner Food Group has been an outstanding corporate citizen since opening its doors in Princeton in 1993. We will continue to work with Bremner Food Corp. and other existing Kentucky companies to partner on future expansion opportunities."

Bremner Food Group will increase the size of its existing facility, located at 1476 U.S. 62 West in Princeton, by approximately 200,000 square foot for a total of 900,000 square feet. Additionally, the company has acquired another 32 acres to accommodate the expansion for a total of 65 acres.

The Princeton plant currently employs 600 team members in numerous production and support functions. Products range from Saltines and Graham Crackers to Fig Bars and Animal Crackers. The plant also produces Shredded Wheat and a private label version of "Triscuit."

"We would like to thank Gov. Beshear and the Cabinet for Economic Development for their support and are very excited to once again work with the Commonwealth of Kentucky on expanding the Princeton manufacturing plant," said Steven Smith, vice president of Human Resources for Bremner Food Group. "They made our decision to invest in Princeton and expand the operation a very easy one. This expansion is also further validation of our commitment to the Princeton team members and our community. We also want to thank Mayor Gale Cherry and the civic leaders of Princeton and Caldwell County who helped make this happen. We look forward to a long and prosperous future in this community."

The Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority preliminarily approved Bremner Food Group for tax benefits up to $5 million under the Kentucky Business Investment program. The incentive can be earned over a 10-year period through corporate income tax credits and wage assessments. The maximum annual approved amount to be earned by Bremner Food Group is $500,000.

"Bremner Food Group Inc. has been an outstanding community partner for nearly 20 years. In addition to employing over 660 people, it has contributed financially to many organizations and projects in the community," said Princeton Mayor Gale Cherry. "Bremner's excellent management practices have provided Princeton with a stable industry that has acted as a buffer against the devastating economic problems that have developed in other cities. As a community, we are extremely grateful to Bremner for choosing Princeton as the site for this extensive expansion. We are also grateful to Gov. Beshear and the Cabinet for Economic Development who have provided incentives and technical support for this project. Without their expertise and support this project would not have been possible."

"The expansion of Bremner Food Group is truly a blessing to our community," said Caldwell County Judge Executive Brock Thomas. "It will provide our families with 111 new full-time jobs. I'm truly thankful to everyone who played a role in this project and look forward to many years of continued growth with Bremner Food Group."

A community profile for Princeton can be viewed at http://thinkkentucky.com/EDIS/cmnty/index.aspx?cw=127. More information on Kentucky's economic development efforts and programs is available at www.ThinkKentucky.com.

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