
Roquette to build the largest pea protein processing facility to date for Food, Nutrition and Health markets

This major investment will allow the company to reinforce its global leading position as a producer of pea protein

La Madeleine (France), 18th January 2017 – Roquette, a global leader in innovative plant-based food ingredients, today announced a notable investment of more than 400 million CAD¹ to build a brand new pea-protein manufacturing site in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba (Canada) in order to address the growing demand for plant proteins.

Roquette's investment - the world's largest dedicated to pea-protein in the Food, Nutrition and Health industry to date - will reinforce the Group's leadership in plant protein. It also reaffirms the company's strategy to develop specialties for Food, Nutrition & Health markets and to accelerate its global growth. This large industrial unit will expand Roquette's pea-protein production capacity and help address the growing customer demand for plant-based proteins in North America and globally.

This new site is strategically located in Canada, the world's largest producer of peas, with around 30% of the total global production. Manitoba's well-educated and professional workforce, strong logistic infrastructures and reliable, competitive and sustainable hydroelectric energy, make the province a very attractive environment for this new facility.

Construction is expected to start in the second half of 2017, subject to obtaining the relevant permits. Production is expected to begin in 2019. Upon completion, Roquette's site in Portage la Prairie is expected to employ around 150 people, mostly recruited locally.

The pea protein market is very attractive and demand for plant proteins for human nutrition is growing tremendously, driven by health consciousness, consumer concerns and sustainability. Pea protein offers many advantages to farmers, customers and consumers, as its production is environmentally friendly and it is a great source of protein, with numerous applications in gluten-free foods, vegetarian foods, sports and slimming foods, senior nutrition and clinical nutrition.

Edouard Roquette, Chairman of Roquette, said: *"This new investment in Manitoba marks a key step in reinforcing Roquette's leadership position in offering high value plant-based ingredients around the world. The new plant, which will be the largest dedicated to pea protein processing in the world to date, will support the future of Manitoba's agriculture industry and help address the growing global demand for innovative Food, Nutrition and Health products and solutions."*

Jean-Marc Gilson, CEO of Roquette, added: *"This investment confirms our commitment to the highly promising pea protein market. We have been a pioneer in plant-based protein specialties with more than 40 years' experience in research and production. This new site, together with our existing plant in France, confirms Roquette as the long-term leader in the plant protein specialties"*

¹ More than 320 million USD and close to 300 million EUR



market worldwide, and it is a great example of how we are helping to meet customer and consumer expectations for innovative and sustainable plant-based solutions.”

“We are pleased to welcome this historic partnership with Roquette, which will result in an unparalleled investment in Manitoba’s food processing and agricultural industries,” said Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister. “This new facility will create jobs and establish stronger markets for Canadian farmers while benefiting our province’s economy for decades to come. It also demonstrates to Canada and to the world that our province is open for business and ready to compete for investments in agricultural production and innovation.”

About Roquette:

A family-owned Group serving customers globally, Roquette is a leader in specialty food ingredients and pharmaceutical excipients. The products and solutions developed by the Group deliver proven technological, nutritional and health benefits precisely tailored to the pharma, nutrition, food and selected industry markets. Roquette’s offer is produced from plant-based raw materials such as corn, wheat, potatoes and peas. Since its foundation over 80 years ago, the Group’s growth has been based on innovation, a passion for the job and a commitment to achieve. Roquette operates in over 100 countries, has a turnover of around 3.3 billion euros and currently employs more than 8,000 people worldwide.

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