



Cooke Aquaculture Purchases Feed Plant in Truro NS *Former Shur-Gain Plant Will Close Company's Gap In Vertical Integration*

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For Immediate Release

Blacks Harbour, NB: Cooke Aquaculture is pleased to announce today's purchase of the former Shur-Gain Aquaculture feed plant in Truro NS from Nutreco, an international company based in the Netherlands.

The transaction is consistent with Cooke's growth strategy and focus on vertical integration. Over the past twenty-one years the Cooke family has built a \$230 million aquaculture company with management over its entire salmon farming value chain – from egg to plate.

"We are very pleased to bring such a significant part of our business into our growing corporate family," says Glenn Cooke, the Company's CEO. "This purchase will enable us to supply a significant portion of our corporate feed needs and to internalize some of our feed costs. We also look forward to serving and expanding the existing customer base."

The Truro feed plant, will add approximately 50 employees to the Cooke family of 1300. The plant is HACCP certified and brings with it a culture of continuous improvement. It is strategically located to serve Cooke's expanding farming operations in the provinces of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick as well as in the State of Maine.

Cooke Aquaculture Inc. is a local, independent family-owned company based in Black's Harbour NB with a 20-year history in salmon farming and a proven track record in profitability and sound environmental and fish health management. The company sells a broad spectrum of fresh, farmed seafood products into the Canadian and US market.

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