



News Release

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Kent of Muscatine Foods Corp Joins the Iowa Business Council

Des Moines, IOWA (March 14, 2011) – Gage A. Kent, Chairman and CEO of Muscatine Foods Corporation in Muscatine, has accepted an invitation to join the Iowa Business Council (IBC). Council membership consists of the top executives of 21 of Iowa's largest employers, the three Regent universities, and Iowa's largest banking association.

Tom Aller, Iowa Business Council chair and president of Interstate Power & Light, an Alliant Energy company in Cedar Rapids, said, "IBC is very pleased to have such an outstanding and respected individual as Gage join its ranks. He has distinguished himself locally and nationally as a leader in policy development, possessing a breadth of experience and knowledge that will serve Iowa businesses and their workforce well in the important work that lies ahead to maintain a competitive posture in the world marketplace."

Gage Kent is a native of Muscatine and a graduate of Iowa State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Business. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer of Muscatine Foods Corporation, having previously held numerous positions in all of its subsidiaries throughout his 26-year career with the company. Locally, Mr. Kent is involved with Muscatine Charities, Muscatine Power and Water public utility, and numerous other charitable, social, and fraternal organizations. On the state level, Gage serves on the Board of Trustees of Simpson College, is a member and former Chair of the Board of Governors of the Iowa College Foundation, and is a member of the Iowa Association of Business and Industry. Nationally, he serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Manufacturers.

Muscatine Foods Corporation (MFC) is a family business founded in 1927 and is based in Muscatine, Iowa. It serves as the parent corporation to Grain Processing Corporation, Kent Nutrition Group, Inc., and Precision Foods, Inc. Grain Processing Corporation is a worldwide manufacturer and marketer of distilled spirits and food ingredients derived from corn. The Kent Nutrition Group, Inc. is comprised of two distinct divisions: the Feed Division is an 80-year leader in nutrition for production livestock, livestock show feeds, and equine diets; and, the Pet Division manufactures and sells top quality foods and litter to the fast growing small companion animal markets worldwide. Precision Foods, Inc. manufactures and sells seasoning blends, and dry blended food products through both retail and food service channels. Today MFC employs more than 1,800 people worldwide. More information about Muscatine Foods Corporation is available online at www.muscatinefoods.com.

ABOUT THE IOWA BUSINESS COUNCIL

The Iowa Business Council (IBC) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, self-funded organization whose 25

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members are the top executives of 21 of the largest businesses in the state, the three Regent university presidents, and Iowa's largest banking association. Founded in 1985, the Council's purpose is to focus the personal commitment of its members in active leadership roles on major initiatives that offer opportunity to enhance Iowa's economic vitality and improve the lives of Iowans. Council members identify economic issues, evaluate options, and assist in implementing solutions through collaborative public/private partnerships. **Collectively**, these companies and institutions employ nearly a quarter million Iowans and have committed billions of dollars in capital investment to the state. **On an annual basis**, several hundred million dollars in financial contributions and thousands of volunteer hours are directed to numerous charitable causes around Iowa. IBC members also lead in technology innovation with billions of dollars spent and grants procured for research and development. The Business Council focuses its efforts primarily in areas related to advanced technology, continuous process improvement, economic and workforce development, education excellence, health care and wellness, and operations continuity and security. Its representation reaches across the state – from borders north and south to rivers east and west. For more information, please visit the IBC Web site at www.iowabusinesscouncil.org.

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