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Industry first for Sodexo as it secures Red Tractor certification across multiple sites

Sodexo, a leading food and facilities management services provider, has today announced that it has been awarded the Red Tractor certification across multiple sites, demonstrating its widespread commitment to supplying customers with quality produce sourced from British farms.

From today, 450 sites in Sodexo's education, healthcare and defence sectors will be providing milk and cream and fruit and vegetables that have been produced to Red Tractor standards at every critical link in the supply chain. This ensures that the products are fully traceable from field to fork.

Furthermore, it means that all of Sodexo's suppliers, processing plants and, where relevant, animal welfare, will have been independently inspected. Sodexo has also shown evidence of complying with approved standards for food safety and responsible management of pesticides.



Via its supplier, Sodexo will support British farmers by procuring over 80 listed lines of fruit and vegetables when they are in season - such as carrots, strawberries, leeks and potatoes.

The move is further evidence of Sodexo's drive to ensure that it supports and sources sustainable and ethical produce wherever possible.

Only recently, Sodexo announced that it was to expand Aspretto, its fair trade-based hot beverage offer (tea and coffee) offer, to client sites throughout the world following completion of a successful introductory pilot on 20 sites in five countries.

This came in addition to the news that Sodexo has become the first school meals provider to achieve Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) accreditation across multiple school contracts in England and Wales.

Michelle Hanson, commercial director, Sodexo UK and Ireland, said: "We are delighted to be in a position to make this announcement. As part of our sustainable procurement strategy, it is incredibly important for us to support British farmers as much as possible and, via the Red Tractor scheme, we are able to provide our



customers with a guarantee that their food has reached their plate from the most ethical and sustainable British sources. The work doesn't stop here as we are currently in the process of further enhancing our sustainable procurement activities by working with a number of other partners."

David Clarke, chief executive at Assured Food Standards, the organisation that runs the Red Tractor scheme said: 'We are delighted that Sodexo, a leading global provider of food is committed to sourcing quality farm assured fruit & vegetables and milk & cream'.

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Press Contacts:

Piers Zangana

Sodexo

Tel: 020 7535 7400

Email: press.office@sodexo.com

About Sodexo

In the UK and Ireland, Sodexo employs 43,000 people, and provides food and facilities management services to clients at over 2,300 locations in the corporate, education, healthcare, leisure and defence sectors.

Many companies rely on Sodexo for cost-effective solutions to their employee or hospitality catering, or to deliver services such as cleaning, reception, switchboard and help desks, mailroom, reprographics and grounds maintenance.

Sodexo is part of the Sodexo Group, the leading global provider of food and facilities management services, with more than 375,000 employees at 30,600 sites in 80 countries.

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