



News Release

Barry Callebaut Ghana - Expansion story: Barry Callebaut inaugurates second cocoa bean processing line in Tema factory in Ghana

Zurich, Switzerland/Tema-Accra, Ghana, February 8, 2007 – Barry Callebaut has inaugurated the second cocoa bean processing line for the factory in the Free Zone Enclave in Tema. The Tema factory was inaugurated on the first of November 2001 by His Excellency John Agyekum Kufuor, and now after five years, a second bean processing line was added, doubling the annual bean processing capacity from 30 000 tonnes to 60 000 tonnes.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Finance and Economic planning, the Ministry of Trade and Industry and PSI, the Ghana Cocoa Board, the Ghana Free Zones Board, the Swiss Ambassador and other stakeholders. In his address, Patrick De Maeseneire, CEO of Barry Callebaut, confirmed the importance of Ghana as a key supplier of cocoa to Barry Callebaut. He also said: “The second bean processing line as well as the investment in Barry Village, a village we have built for our employees a year ago are evidence of our long-term commitment to this country of origin, which is the no. 2 cocoa producer in the world. Through our activities and investments in origin countries such as Ghana, Ivory Coast, Cameroon or Brazil we strive to improve the quality of our cocoa beans and at the same time we are making a contribution to the economic development of this country. Gotzon de Aguirre, Managing Director of Barry Callebaut Ghana, expressed the hope that the government would soon manage to resolve the very difficult energy situation in the country. Benoit Villers, President, Global Sourcing and Cocoa explained that one of the main reasons behind the decision to invest in Ghana is the commitment from the government to increase cocoa production to above 1 million tonnes.

Apart from the doubling of the bean processing capacity, the capacity expansion also included the expansion of the finished products warehouse, the expansion of the administrative building and the addition of an extra social block for the subcontractors so that more space is available in the old social block for the increased staff numbers. The total investment is worth more than 10 million USD.

Barry Callebaut (www.barry-callebaut.com):

With annual sales of more than CHF 4 billion for fiscal year 2005/06, Zurich-based Barry Callebaut is the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality cocoa, chocolate and confectionery products – from the cocoa bean to the finished product on the store shelf. Barry Callebaut is present in 25 countries, operates more than 30 production facilities and employs approximately 8,000 people. The company serves the entire food industry, from food manufacturers to professional users of chocolate (such as chocolatiers, pastry chefs or bakers), to global retailers. It also provides a comprehensive range of services in the fields of product development, processing, training and marketing.



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