

Quality Chekd Dairies Inc.

Quality Chekd Dairies Inc. is a member-owned organization of 27 independent dairy processors with 59 manufacturing facilities located throughout the United States, Guatemala and Colombia. Quality Chekd member companies provide consumers with world-class dairy products endorsed by the familiar Blue Q, Red Check trademark, a symbol of Quality and Food Safety.

Based in Lisle, Ill., Quality Chekd works on behalf of its dairy processors by providing services that assist them in being a successful business in addition to providing consumers with safe, delicious dairy products. Dairy owner and employee training is among those services the organization views as key to ongoing success, and has invested heavily in building a state-of-the-art training program partnership with the College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Services at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

This unique partnership enables both Quality Chekd and OSU to benefit from the resources and equity each has built over the years to offer a superior training and educational experience. The training programs developed over the years by Quality Chekd, combined with the labs, research capability and resources of Ohio State University, offer enhanced training and education in food safety and equipment operation. In addition to Quality Chekd associates, students in the School of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Science can take advantage of this collaboration between public institution and private enterprise.

While this educational and training partnership has emerged as a primary focus for Quality Chekd, the organization maintains a series of additional programs designed to enhance the various aspects of a successful dairy operation. Customized and industry-specific training in the area of Human Resources enables members to access the information and strategies needed to remain competitive. Cutting-



edge online, on-site and regional training sessions address the demands of a diverse and evolving workplace.

Stringent marketing standards ensure only the freshest, highest-quality dairy products carry the Blue Q, Red Check trademark. The strength of the mark ensures high consumer confidence and allows members to leverage it in all its marketing programs. Quality Chekd provides trademark and packaging management as well as marketing trends, tips, tools and on-site consultation to assist members in getting the biggest bang out of their marketing budget.

Combined purchasing power is highlighted through the QCS Purchasing program, representing more than 35 percent

of the dairy industry. This program combines the buying power of three partner QCS organizations serving member facilities in the U.S., Mexico, Canada, Colombia, Guatemala, Costa Rica and New Zealand. The total volume of QCS member purchases will exceed \$500 million annually and served more than 700 product facilities, enabling the partners to stay competitive with the industry's other top operations.

Through an ongoing commitment to superior quality and service, Quality Chekd offers its associates the opportunity to continue offering consumers the finest dairy products for their homes and families.

