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Governor Doyle Announces Kerry Group Expansion Plans for Beloit

Project to create 250 jobs

BELOIT— Governor Jim Doyle today announced that Kerry Group, with Americas' regional headquarters in Beloit, will expand operations in Wisconsin through the addition of a new Center of Excellence.

The new **Kerry Centre** will include a state-of-the-art Center of Excellence to help customers gain access to Kerry's technologies, application centers and R&D labs from one location. Additionally, this facility will include offices for business units as well as Kerry Americas' headquarters and shared services. It will be located on 124 acres at the intersection of I90/I43 and once constructed will have approximately 200,000 square feet and house close to 500 employees with the potential to expand as needed to accommodate new technologies and employees in the future.

"Our new facility will bring together Kerry expertise in a way that makes it easy for our customers and employees to collaborate and deliver innovative, integrated solutions," said Stan McCarthy, President and CEO of Kerry Americas. "Our expansion in Wisconsin is an integral part of our growth strategy and helps ensure Kerry Group remains a leader in the food and beverage industry and one of Wisconsin's great places to work."

The Governor said that the company also considered Illinois for its expansion. "I'm committed to making investments that encourage economic development across Wisconsin," Gov. Doyle said. "Kerry Americas is a valued Wisconsin corporate citizen with its headquarters in Beloit. I'm pleased we could extend our partnership with this company and retain the expansion for Wisconsin."

City Manager Larry Arft said, "I know I speak on behalf of the entire City Council when I say how proud and pleased we are that Kerry Americas selected Beloit to locate its new Center of Excellence. We also want to thank Governor Doyle, Commerce Secretary Mary Burke, as well as local developers Ken Hendricks and John Patch of Turtle Creek Development Corporation, for their support in helping retain Kerry Americas headquarters and the addition of the technical center."

The Department of Commerce is providing \$5.5 million in loans and tax credits to the expansion project. The Department of Transportation is providing a \$500,000 grant for transportation improvements. In addition, the City of Beloit is providing infrastructure improvements and Direct Developer Incentives totaling \$4.7 million to enable Kerry to grow with the community.

About Kerry Americas

Kerry Americas is a part of Kerry Group. Headquartered in Tralee, Ireland, the Group is a leader in the global food ingredients and flavors markets, and a leading branded consumer foods processing and marketing organization in selected EU markets. Kerry Group employs some 20,000 people throughout its manufacturing, sales and technical centers across Europe, North America, South America, Australia, New Zealand and Asian Markets. Kerry supplies over 10,000 food, food ingredients and flavor products to customers in more than 140 countries worldwide. The Group has manufacturing facilities in 19 different countries and international sales offices in 20 other countries across the globe.

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