

# News Release

## **Chocolate Demand Growing in Region Americas Barry Callebaut Group Announces Expansion Plans for U.S. West Coast Facility**

- **Barry Callebaut leverages geographic and demographic opportunities for Chocolate category on West Coast**
- **\$20m investment at American Canyon facility to provide significant increase in production and follow previous expansion completed in march**

*Chicago/U.S., November 3, 2016* – The Barry Callebaut Group, the world’s leading manufacturer of high-quality chocolate and cocoa products, today announced further capacity investments at its American Canyon factory in California after completing a first wave in March 2016. The new expansion initiative is in direct response to the increased customer demand for chocolate and compound products on the West Coast.

This second wave of expansion will result in another significant increase in plant capacity by adding liquid chocolate and compound production capacity, tank capacity and increased molding infrastructure. The American Canyon operations include milk, dark and white chocolate and compound products.

“Ensuring our facilities match regional demand is crucial to meet customer demand,” said Dave Johnson, CEO and President Americas of the Barry Callebaut Group. “Population growth in the West Coast is driving an increased chocolate demand. We are committed to providing our customers with products of the highest quality and consistency in an advantageous proximity.”

“We’re excited about the trends in the Western market, so our investment in the American Canyon facility highlights our optimism for chocolate growth in the region,” Johnson continued. “This investment will drive our business and the business of our customers forward on the West Coast.”

The project is expected to be completed by mid-year 2017 and will also create additional jobs at the facility. The investment of approximately \$20 million is part of the Group’s annual Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) of approximately \$200 million.

The American Canyon factory, which was opened in 2005, serves a variety of food manufacturers and confectionery companies with operations based in the Western regions of the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

For more information about the Barry Callebaut Group, please visit [www.barry-callebaut.com](http://www.barry-callebaut.com).

**About Barry Callebaut Group ([www.barry-callebaut.com](http://www.barry-callebaut.com)):**

With annual sales of about CHF 6.7 billion (EUR 6.1 billion / USD 6.8 billion) in fiscal year 2015/16, the Zurich-based Barry Callebaut Group is the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality chocolate and cocoa products – from sourcing and processing cocoa beans to producing the finest chocolates, including chocolate fillings, decorations and compounds. The Group runs more than 50 production facilities worldwide and employs a diverse and dedicated global workforce of close to 10.000 people.

The Barry Callebaut Group serves the entire food industry, from industrial food manufacturers to artisanal and professional users of chocolate, such as chocolatiers, pastry chefs, bakers, hotels, restaurants or caterers. The two global brands catering to the specific needs of these Gourmet customers are Callebaut® and Cacao Barry®. The Barry Callebaut Group is committed to sustainable cocoa production to help ensure future supplies of cocoa and improve farmer livelihoods. It supports the Cocoa Horizons Foundation in its goal to shape a sustainable cocoa and chocolate future.

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**Contact for the media:**

Padraic Swanton

Porter Novelli

Phone: +312-552-6333 (office); +773-428-6382 (cell)

[padraic.swanton@porternovelli.com](mailto:padraic.swanton@porternovelli.com)