

Media Information

More than 150 years of tradition and innovation

The Barry Callebaut Group, headquartered in Switzerland, resulted from the merger between Belgian chocolate maker Callebaut and French chocolate producer Cacao Barry in 1996. The Group has been listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange since 1998. Following the integration of the acquired cocoa business from Petra Foods into the Barry Callebaut Group in June 2013, the company is now the largest manufacturer of both chocolate and cocoa products.

Some important milestones in the Barry Callebaut Group's history



2018

- Barry Callebaut introduces sensory language and tasting ritual for chocolate
- KitKat is the first brand in the world to launch Ruby chocolate version

2017

- Barry Callebaut reveals the fourth type in chocolate: Ruby
- Barry Callebaut acquires Ingredients Division of Gertrude Hawk Chocolate
- Barry Callebaut acquires D'Orsogna Dolciaria
- Driving sustainable cane sugar production: Barry Callebaut joins Bonsucro
- Barry Callebaut couples sustainability with its renewed banking credit facility
- Barry Callebaut opens its Chocolate Academy center in Milan, Italy
- Barry Callebaut and the Chocolate Academy Mexico announced the opening of their new offices in Mexico City
- Mona Lisa Announces Shift to HORIZONS Program as Cocoa Source for Decorative Chocolate Products
- American Almond celebrates move to new facility

- La Morella Nuts is launching a new range of organic Mediterranean nuts

2016

- Barry Callebaut closed the acquisition of the commercial beverages vending activities of FrieslandCampina Kievit, making it a leading supplier of vending powder mixes
- Strategic partnership with Tony's Chocolonely to produce chocolate from fully traceable cocoa
- Partnership with the IFC and the IDH to provide credit to farmers and co-operatives successful placement of corporate bond
- Opening of Beverage Academy in Sweden
- Barry Callebaut to extend strategic supply partnership with Mondelez International in Belgium / Halle factory
- Barry Callebaut joins the 25 most sustainable listed companies in Switzerland in the SXI Switzerland Sustainability 25® index
- Barry Callebaut celebrates grand opening of its first chocolate factory in Gresik/Indonesia
- Barry Callebaut expands chocolate manufacturing facility in Singapore
- Barry Callebaut publishes new sustainability strategy "Forever Chocolate"
- Barry Callebaut announces further capacity investments at its American Canyon factory in California
- Andreas Jacobs steps down from his post at the Shareholders Meeting. Patrick De Maeseneire elected as new Chairman
- Barry Callebaut completes acquisition of chocolate production facility in Halle, Belgium

2015

- Barry Callebaut signs a licensing agreement with Naturex to market approved health claim on cocoa extracts
- Launch of the HORIZONS sustainable products and the Cocoa Chronicles
- Barry Callebaut acquires Nyonkopa to cover growing customer need for sustainable and traceable cocoa from Ghana
- Barry Callebaut to partner with Mondelez to scale up their Cocoa Life program
- Launch of the Cocoa Horizons Foundation, an independent nonprofit organization to improve the livelihoods of cocoa farmers and their communities

- Announcement of a new partnership with the Hershey Company to improve the livelihoods of thousands of farmers in Côte d'Ivoire
- Opening of a new Chocolate Academy center in Japan, the Group's 19th training center in the world and its fourth in Region Asia Pacific
- GarudaFood and Barry Callebaut enter long-term supply agreement in Indonesia - Barry Callebaut's first compound chocolate outsourcing agreement in Southeast Asia
- Announcement of Antoine de Saint Affrique to become the new CEO of Barry Callebaut as of October 1, 2015
- Signing of an agreement to acquire the customer portfolio, brands, recipes and manufacturing equipment from nut products manufacturer American Almond Products Co., Inc. (U.S.)
- Launch of new chocolate and compound recipes with a higher thermo-tolerance
- Barry Callebaut opens first Cocoa Application Center in Asia Pacific in Pasir Gudang, Malaysia, to drive future growth of its customers
- Barry Callebaut joins leading industry initiatives to develop sustainable supply chains
- European Commission extends Barry Callebaut's health claim on Acticoa products to cocoa extracts
- Establishing a Shared Service Center (SSC) in Łódź, Poland, for bundling transactional activities in Europe
- Inauguration of a new, modernized chocolate academy center in Russia's capital Moscow
- Barry Callebaut together with FIB (Flanders Institute for Biotechnology) and KU Leuven (University of Leuven) optimize the cocoa fermentation process with a newly developed yeast
- The Barry Callebaut Group awarded with a new patent on reduced fat chocolate
- Signing of a long-term outsourcing agreement with World's Finest® Chocolate based in Chicago, U.S., including acquisition of their manufacturing assets
- Building of a new compound chocolate factory in Pune, India
- Opening of a new Chocolate Academy center in Cologne, Germany
- Opening of the first Chocolate Academy center in the Middle East in Dubai

2014

- Official inauguration of Barry Callebaut's first chocolate factory in Chile
- Expansion plans announced for the chocolate factory Łódź, Poland
- Announcement about the expansion of the Brazilian chocolate factory in Extrema
- Organization of 2nd international stakeholder conference Chocovision in Davos
- Opening of new Callebaut flagship Chocolate Academy center in Wize

- EFSA approval to extend existing health claim for cocoa extract products
- Acting as leading force to form the “CocoaAction” strategy of the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF)
- Acquisition of the remaining 51% stake of the Biolands Group
- Start of production in new, relocated chocolate factory in Tagasaki (Japan)

2013

- Inauguration of the 16th chocolate academy center on the premises of the Barry Callebaut Group’s EEMEA headquarters in Istanbul
- Inauguration of the Group’s first chocolate factory in Turkey located in Eskişehir
- EU Commission approves Barry Callebaut’s health claim on cocoa flavanols
- Opening of a cocoa factory in Makassar, Indonesia (with joint venture partner P.T. Comextra Majora)
- Inauguration of the first Cocoa Center of Excellence to promote advanced agricultural techniques in Côte d’Ivoire
- Acquisition of the cocoa business of Singapore-based Petra Foods
- Opening of an expanded state-of-the-art chocolate factory in Toluca, Mexico
- Acquisition of ASM Foods AB in Sweden and signing of first long-term outsourcing agreement in Scandinavia with Carletti A/S
- Signing of first long-term outsourcing agreement in South America with Arcor

2012

- EFSA issues positive Scientific Opinion on Barry Callebaut’s health claim on cocoa flavanols
- Signing of long-term outsourcing/partnership agreement with Unilever, Grupo Bimbo (Mexico) and Morinaga (Japan)
- Purchasing Chatham facility from Batory Industries Company in Ontario (Canada)
- Launch of new “Cocoa Horizons” initiative based on strategic pillar Sustainable Cocoa
- Acquisition of the Spanish la Morella nuts
- Acquisition of American chocolate decorations manufacturer Mona Lisa Food Products, Inc.

2011

- Barry Callebaut and P.T. Comextra Majora enter into joint venture to form P.T. Barry Callebaut Comextra Indonesia
- Sale of European Consumer Products business to Belgian Baronie Group
- Signing of long-term outsourcing agreement with Chocolates Turín, Mexico

- Expansion of the existing supply and innovation agreement with Hershey's
- Acquisition of remaining 40% stake in Barry Callebaut Malaysia Sdn Bhd, formerly KKK Cocoa

2010

- Signing of a major outsourcing contract with Kraft Foods Inc.
- Opening of a chocolate factory in Extrema, Brazil signing of a major outsourcing contract with Kraft Foods Inc.

2009

- Acquisition of Spanish chocolate maker Chocovic, S.A
- Acquisition of Danish vending mix company Eurogran
- Distribution agreement signed with Bunge Alimentos in Brazil
- Sale of Van Houten Singapore consumer business to Hershey's

2008

Opening of a chocolate factory in Monterrey, Mexico

- Outsourcing agreement with Morinaga in Japan and start of production in new factory
- Acquisition of IBC, specialist in decorations, in Kortrijk-Heule, Belgium
- Sale of African Consumer business
- Opening of Chocolate Academy centers in Suzhou (China), Zundert (Netherlands), Mumbai (India), Chekhov (Russia) and Chicago (U.S.)
- Opening of a sales office and Chocolate Academy center in Mumbai, India
- Acquisition of a 60% stake in KKK Cocoa in Malaysia
- Acquisition of a 49% stake in Biolands, Tanzania
- Opening of a chocolate factory in Suzhou, China

2007

- Acquisition of a cocoa factory in Pennsylvania, U.S.
- Signing of major outsourcing contracts with Nestlé, Hershey's and Cadbury
- Divestment of Brach's Confections Holding, Inc. in the U.S.
- Opening of a chocolate factory in Chekhov, Russia

2005

- Opening of a chocolate factory in California, U.S.

2004

- Opening of a chocolate factory in California, U.S.

2003

- Acquisition of Brach's Confections Holding, Inc. in the U.S
- Acquisition of Dutch Group Graverboom B.V. (including Luijckx B.V.)

2002

- Acquisition of the Stollwerck Group in Germany

1999

- Acquisition of Carma AG in Switzerland

Today, the Barry Callebaut Group is the world's leading, fully integrated manufacturer of high-quality chocolate and cocoa products. The company has evolved from a supplier of industry and specialty chocolates for industrial and artisanal customers into a provider of integrated solutions, from the cocoa bean to the finest chocolate product, to the entire food industry. As the outsourcing partner of choice, the Barry Callebaut Group has an estimated 40% share of sales volumes in the open market. The Group offers over 6,000 recipes to its customers, allowing it to cater to local taste preferences around the world.