



# WCMA Dairy Facts

An Exclusive Newsletter of the WISCONSIN CHEESE MAKERS ASSOCIATION

April 12, 2019



## 2019 CHEESE INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

April 17 & 18, 2019 | Alliant Energy Center | Madison, Wisconsin

Exhibits: April 17

### See You in Madison Next Week!

Unparalleled access to the dairy processing industry's brightest minds and greatest products - that's what the **2019 Cheese Industry Conference** offers!

Join us and 2,700 of your colleagues in the dairy processing community at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, Wisconsin next Wednesday, April 17 and Thursday, April 18. Check out our **seminar offerings**, **networking opportunities**, and **record-breaking showcase of technology, goods, and services** now.



### 2019 CIC Mobile App Now Live

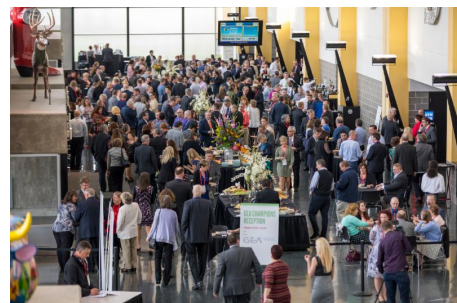
Sponsored by WCMA supplier member TC Transcontinental Packaging, the 2019 CIC mobile app is available now for download at [CheeseConference.org](http://CheeseConference.org) or via your smart phone's app store with a search for "Cheese Industry Conference." The app provides access to complete exhibitor information, a map of the exhibit floor, a list of educational seminars and Ideas Showcase presentations, and major event alerts.

### Parking and Registration

Parking is free at the Alliant Energy Center.

Conference registration counters will be open at the following times:

- Tuesday, April 16 from 12 noon-7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 17 from 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, April 18 from 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.



[Click Here for Complete Conference Details](#)

## WCMA Offices Closed for Cheese Industry Conference

Members, please note that all WCMA staff will be on-site at the 2019 CIC from Monday, April 15 through Friday, April 19. For pressing matters, please email staff at the addresses linked below. Thank you for your understanding!

- [Executive Director John Umhoefer](#)
- [Communications, Education, and Policy Director Rebekah Sweeney](#)
- [Communications Assistant Claudia Looze](#)
- [Events Director Judy Keller](#)
- [Events Manager Kirsten Strohmenger](#)
- [Events Manager Caitlin Peirick](#)
- [Events Intern Samantha Garcia](#)
- [Office and Member Services Coordinator Sara Schmidt](#)



## Higher Vendor Quotes for CDR Project Trigger \$11.6M Shortfall

While ground has been broken on the Center for Dairy Research/Babcock Hall Dairy Plant, the project now faces a major funding shortfall. You may recall, it had already been allocated \$46.9 million in support, including \$18.5 million from industry donors.

Last week, University of Wisconsin College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Dean Kate VandenBosch shared that vendor quotes were returned at more than \$10 million over the original estimates. With a \$1.4 million contingency needed, the current project funding shortfall stands at approximately \$11.6 million.

Dean VandenBosch noted in a message to donors, "There are several reasons for this substantial shortfall, including incomplete and inadequate drawings and planning provided by the A&E firm and its subcontractors, along with increases in costs of materials over time. All of this has led to uncertainty, increasing the chance that costs will continue to escalate."

The Wisconsin Department of Administration and University of Wisconsin Office of the Chancellor will now review the project and consider paths forward. WCMA staff is in daily contact with these parties, and will continue to advocate in the industry's best interests. Watch for ongoing updates in future editions of this newsletter.

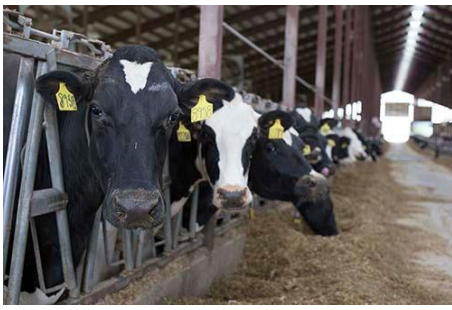
## WCMA Advocates for State Budget Changes to Grow Industry

WCMA staff is actively lobbying in Wisconsin for stand-alone legislation and state budget proposal designed to support dairy processing industry growth.

This week, WCMA sent a letter to all lawmakers outlining policy priorities. [Please click here to read the letter.](#) Our thanks go to member signers Baker

Cheese, Bytec Resource Management, Cedar Grove Cheese, Chr. Hansen, Clock Shadow Creamery, Dairy Equipment Advisors, Door Artisan Cheese Company, Eau Galle Cheese Factory, Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery, Food Safety Net Services, Henning's Cheese, Hook's Cheese Company, JDG Consulting, Kelley Supply, Klondike Cheese Company, Masters Gallery Foods, Meister Cheese, Mill Creek Cheese, Nasonville Dairy, Pine River Dairy, Pine River Pre-Pack, Ponderosa Dairy Products, Ron's Wisconsin Cheese, Sartori Cheese, Sentry Equipment, Specialty Cheese Company, Stainless Technologies, Sulbana, Uplands Cheese, Widmer's Cheese Cellars, and Zepnick Solutions for their advocacy and engagement.





## WCMA Supports Dairy Innovation Hub Proposal from Farm Partners

WCMA is supporting a proposal championed by partners in the dairy farming community to invest \$7.6 million in state funding to training and research projects at University of Wisconsin campuses in Madison, Platteville and River Falls. Learn more in [this editorial](#) co-signed by WCMA.

## International Trade Negotiations Continue With New Conflicts

Negotiations over international trade agreements have continued this week, with new conflicts. Here's a round-up of some of the latest news.

- *Reuters*: [In new attack, Trump threatens more tariffs against European Union](#)
- *The Washington Post*: [Trump is threatening tariffs on European cheese and wine. Could this brie be the beginning of a trade war?](#)
- *NPR*: [Trade war with cheese: Trump's new EU tariffs](#)
- *Politico*: [Canada rebooting tariff targets as 232 relief stalls](#)
- *Reuters*: [New NAFTA deal 'in trouble'; bruised by elections, tariff rows](#)
- *Washington Examiner*: [Grassley warns Trump's new tariff threats toward Mexico could sink trade deal](#)
- *Bloomberg*: [As China trade war cools, Japan braces for its clash with Trump](#)



### WCMA Notes: Tariffs Erode Export Strength

In the April edition of *WCMA Notes*, Executive Director John Umhoefer provides his take on the impact of ongoing trade conflicts on the dairy industry. He writes:

*The U.S. dairy industry deserves price recovery based on quality products, skilled sales and balanced milk supply. A suspension of U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminum, and alternate solutions to address southern border security, can assure that the marketplace, not government policies, will guide dairy industry success. [Read more here!](#)*

## IN THE NEWS...

- *NPR*: [Food banks are dealing with a surplus of meat, milk, and cheese](#)
- *Forbes*: [FDA, USDA, EPA announce strategy to 'win on reducing food waste'](#)
- *Eater*: [There's too much yogurt](#)
- *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*: [Making cheese, especially cheddar, is a family tradition at Henning's Wisconsin Cheese in Kiel](#) (Featuring Henning's Cheese)
- *Golf Digest*: [Masters 2019: The curious case of the original pimento cheese recipe](#)



- Food+Wine: [154-cheese pizza breaks record for 'greatest variety of cheese on a pizza'](#)



## Video Feature: *Wisconsin Foodie* Highlights Three WCMA Members

This week's episode of *Wisconsin Foodie*, a public broadcasting program, features WCMA members Cedar Grove Cheese, Landmark Creamery, and Uplands Cheese for the unique collaboration and support they provide to one another as they craft award-winning cheese. This is must-see TV!

## Congrats to Front-Line Supervisor Training Grads!



Congratulations and thanks go to the 16 member employees from Grande Cheese Company, Great Lakes Cheese Company, Koss Industrial, Meister Cheese Company, Renard's Rosewood Dairy, Schuman Cheese-Imperia Foods, and V&V Supremo Foods who completed Front-Line Supervisor Training-Part C, focused on personal productivity and stress management in the workplace. The students rated the course a 9.8/10! Kudos to their employers for investing in their ongoing education. Learn more about WCMA trainings [here](#).

## Register Now for the Certificate in Dairy Processing Course at CDR

Offered through the Center for Dairy Research, the Certificate in Dairy Processing program aims to provide plant workers and operators with a clear understanding of all dairy plant processes.

This hybrid course, sponsored in part by WCMA, features a ten week series of modules covering key aspects of dairy processing through short, online learning sessions and hands-on activities.



The next course begins May 2. [Register now](#) to reserve your spot!



## WCMA Welcomes 11 New Members

This week, WCMA warmly welcomes [AFCO-Zep](#), [Custom Stainless Enclosures, Inc.](#), [FoodTools](#), [IDOM Inc.](#), [Interstates](#), [Larson Engineering, Inc.](#), [LETICO, Inc.](#), [PFH Automation](#), [Powder Process-Solutions](#), [Prominent Fluid Controls, Inc.](#), and [U.S. Water](#) as supplier members of our growing Association.

For more than 128 years, WCMA has served as the voice of cheese and dairy manufacturers, processors, and marketers. Today, our organization includes 97 dairy companies and cooperatives operating 260 facilities in 23 states, backed by 550 companies that supply equipment and services to the dairy industry.

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## In Brief...

Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin invites WCMA members to register now for the following educational opportunities:

- [HACCP Training for Processors](#) - May 13-14 | Madison, Wisconsin
- [Implementing SQF Systems](#) - May 15-16 | Madison, Wisconsin
- [Internal Auditor: SQF](#) - May 17 | Madison, Wisconsin

For more information, contact [DFW's Adam Brock](#).

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WCMA members are invited to join in the upcoming Dairy Exchange meeting at the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection. Held quarterly, this event is set for April 23 from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and will offer a comparison of dairy and plant-based protein performance and applications, a report on the state's trade mission to China, and a summary of Dairy Task Force 2.0 efforts. For more information, contact [Julie Pierstorff](#).

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The Center for Dairy Research has opened registration for the following short courses:

- [Wisconsin Cleaning & Sanitation Workshop](#) | April 30
- [Food Safety Workshop](#) | May 1
- [Certificate in Dairy Processing](#) | May 2-July 25
- [Applied Dairy Chemistry](#) | May 7-8
- [Cheese Grading Short Course](#) | June 4-6

These courses take place in Madison, Wisconsin. For more details and to register, [click here](#).

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NCCIA and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture Dairy Inspection Program invite WCMA members to register now for a pasteurizer training workshop on May 1 at the University of Minnesota. To register or request more information, contact [Susan Eschbach](#).

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WCMA members are invited to attend WOW Logistics WOW-We Care Charity's Sixth Annual Shooters Cup Fundraiser on May 3 in Brillion, Wisconsin. All proceeds benefit Rebuilding Together - Fox Valley. To register, [click here](#).

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Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin invites WCMA members to mark their calendars now for the second annual Dairy Experience Forum in St. Paul, Minnesota July 16-18. Initial information is [available here](#), with complete details to follow in April.

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Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association | 608-286-1001 | [www.wischeesemakers.org](http://www.wischeesemakers.org)  
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STAY CONNECTED:



