



WCMA NEWS

Your source for the latest
in dairy processing

October 22, 2024

news@wischeesemakers.org



NEWS



WCMA Launches Alliance with OSHA, WisCon



Through a [new Alliance announced last week](#), WCMA will boost its long-standing relationship with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Wisconsin Safety and Health Consultation Program (WisCon) to support dairy processors' efforts to keep their employees safe on the job. The [Alliance agreement](#) was signed during a meeting of WCMA's Health & Safety Group, hosted by Association member Foremost Farms USA.

Under the agreement, representatives from WCMA and OSHA will meet annually to identify areas of emphasis and track progress toward several key goals, including enhanced communication and

educational programming. For more details, see news coverage of the signing:

- Dairy Processing: [WCMA establishes formal alliance with OSHA](#)
- InBusiness: [WCMA, OSHA, WisCon boost support of dairy processor worker health, safety](#)
- Supermarket Perimeter: [Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association, OSHA establish Alliance](#)

Vote Now for 2025 WCMA Distinguished Service Awards



Left: 2024 WCMA Distinguished Service Award honoree Gary Starkson (left) with Mark Steffens. Right: honoree Reda Yacoub (left) with David Ewing.

[Cast your vote today](#) to help select the individuals who will be honored with the WCMA Distinguished Service Award in April 2025. This award recognizes supplier partner members who have played a significant role in building the success of the U.S. dairy industry. All votes must be received by EOD Friday, November 8.

VOTE NOW

New Report Shows Impact of Wisconsin Immigrant Workers



According to a [new report](#) released last week by the American Immigration Council and Upwardly Global, immigrants are "fueling economic growth" in the Great Lakes region. In Wisconsin, the report states, immigrants make up 4.9 percent of the population, but have an outsized impact on the state's \$104.8 billion agriculture industry, representing 11.1 percent of agricultural workers. [READ MORE...](#)

USDA Seeks Cheddar Bids, Awards IDIQ Contracts

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has issued a solicitation for [cheddar cheese](#) for use in federal food distribution programs, with bids due October 24 by 1:00 p.m. (CT). Questions may be directed to [USDA staff](#).

USDA has also [awarded contracts](#) to WCMA members Associated Milk Producers Inc. (AMPI), Bongards Creameries, Cedar Valley Cheese, Dairy Farmers of America, Land O'Lakes, Masters Gallery Foods, and Winona Foods to provide over 81 million pounds of indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity (IDIQ) cheddar cheese. The agency also [contracted](#) with AMPI, Bongards Creameries, and Great Lakes Cheese to provide over 45 million pounds of IDIQ process cheese.

A list of [open USDA solicitations](#) and information on how to [become an approved vendor](#) is available [online](#).

Headlines

Wisconsin

- WISC-TV: [Guess That Cheese with Best of Madison winner Emmi Roth](#) (Featuring WCMA member Emmi Roth)

- Point/Plover Metro Wire: [Mullins Cheese expansion moves forward in Plover](#)
- Tasting Table: [The world's largest cheese board weighed over 4,000 pounds](#) (Featuring Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin and WCMA member Henning's Cheese)

National & Global

- Dairy Processing: [Dairy prices expected to remain high entering 2025](#)
- Dairy News Australia: [Pure Dairy partners with Great Lakes Cheese](#) (Featuring WCMA member Great Lakes Cheese)
- Boston Globe: [To mark 40 years, Vermont Creamery releases a doughnut-shaped cheese](#) (Featuring WCMA member Vermont Creamery)

EVENTS & CONNECTION

Act Now for CheeseCon Marketing Opportunities



Promote your business and build connections in the dairy processing industry with [impactful marketing opportunities](#) at CheeseCon 2025!

Show your support for ongoing learning with an [all-new Seminar Q&A sponsorship](#), featuring branded signage in seminar rooms. Boost visibility and demonstrate your company's commitment to industry excellence with new Silver Level offerings at the prestigious [U.S. Championship Cheese Contest](#), held in the weeks leading up to CheeseCon.

[VIEW SPONSORSHIP & ADVERTISING MENU](#)



Register Early and Save Big!

Don't miss out on CheeseCon's best registration rates, available only until January 28. With our [special early bird discount](#), dairy manufacturers and processors can attend CheeseCon's tabletop exhibits on Wednesday, April 16, plus popular networking events, for **just \$80!**

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Network, Get Trade Updates at WCMA Export Workgroup Meeting

Explore critical topics in dairy exporting and get updates on key trade issues at the next meeting of [WCMA's Export Workgroup!](#) Join in person or online on Thursday, November 7. We'll cover selecting trustworthy export partners, setting competitive prices for global markets, and

WCMA Export Workgroup

Join online or in-person!

November 7
10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (CT)
Madison, Wisconsin



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navigating the complexities of international trade regulations. Plus, gain insights into the implementation of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USCMA) and the use of common food names in Mexican markets.

Upcoming WCMA Events

October 24	November 5	November 7	November 22	December 5
Dairy Food Safety Alliance Meeting (Hybrid)	Free Webinar: 2025 U.S. Championship Cheese Contest	Export Workgroup Meeting (Hybrid)	Young Professionals Event	Train the Safety Trainer Course (In-Person)

[VIEW ALL & REGISTER](#)

FEATURED: WEBINARS

Learn more about WCMA's programs and member services in this special rotating section! This week, we spotlight WCMA's free, monthly members-only webinars.

Free WCMA Webinar to Cover U.S. Championship Cheese Contest

WCMA Webinar
Your Path to the United States Championship Cheese Contest

Chart your path to the 2025 U.S. Championship Cheese Contest with WCMA's [next free webinar](#) on Tuesday, November 5 at 1:00 p.m. (CT). [Register now](#) to learn the ins and outs of the Contest and how to make the most of your participation - whether or not you come away with a medal! [LEARN MORE...](#)

Watch WCMA FMMO Webinar On-Demand

A recording of WCMA's latest free members-only webinar, exploring the potential impacts of federal milk marketing order (FMMO) milk pricing decisions, is [now available online](#). This session features presentations from WCMA Executive Director John Umhoefer and dairy economist Dr. Chuck Nicholson, plus a live Q&A. A copy of the slides used during the webinar and a list of key contacts and



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resources are available to logged-in members now at [WisCheeseMakers.org](https://www.wischeesemakers.org).

FMMO Reforms Explained: What Dairy Processors Need to Know

October 15, 2024

EDUCATION

Invest in Safety with WCMA Train the Safety Trainer December 5



Build your skills as a trainer, network with peers, and enhance your organization's safety culture - live and in-person - with [WCMA's Train the Safety Trainer class](#) on Thursday, December 5 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (CT), sponsored by [Nelson-Jameson](#). Designed with input from WCMA's Health & Safety Group, this interactive session aims to equip the dairy processing industry's safety trainers with the knowledge, skills, and strategies to effectively communicate safety expectations and protocols for maximum compliance.

For more educational opportunities from WCMA and our partners, visit:

[WisCheeseMakers.org/Events](https://www.wischeesemakers.org/Events)

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