

## **News Release**



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### **Nikos Ligidakis joins Beatrice**

PHOENIX -- DeWitt Hoopes, president of Beatrice Companies, Inc. announced today that Nikos Ligidakis has joined Beatrice in the capacity of Executive Vice President of the Quality Control and Regulatory Compliance Department for the Beatrice U.S. Food Corp. subsidiary. Mr. Ligidakis will be in charge of ensuring that all food and beverage products produced at Beatrice meet the strict quality standards that our company has adhered to.

DeWitt Hoopes President & CEO of Beatrice Companies, Inc. said, "Nikos originally has an existing agreement with Beatrice, where the company would produce his line of products exclusively, however Beatrice recognized that Nikos had extensive knowledge and history in the food industry and having him join our team was a perfect fit." Mr. Hoopes went on to say that, "Nikos has always had an eye for quality and it really shows in the products that he produced for his own establishments and having Nikos oversee the Quality Control and Regulatory Compliance Department gives me and the company a reassurance that Beatrice food products will be of the highest quality."

Mr. Ligidakis will start working as Executive Vice President of Quality Control and Regulatory Compliance effective today, and will work with the Beatrice U.S. Food Corp. subsidiary.

#### **About Nikos Ligidakis**

Nationally recognized chef Nikos Ligidakis is a native of Greece. Nikos is truly a success story. Although he has no formal training, he has blended his own gift for baking in a unique way. His recipes are original. Many of his recipes have come to him in his dreams and like any great artist he has sacrificed many a night's sleep in pursuit of the perfect creation.

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Nikos's popularity is, both for his selfless charitable involvement and his idiosyncratic cooking style. He prides himself on his culinary creativity, use of quality ingredients, freshness, and consistency. Nikos has been lauded in virtually every publication in the Greater Phoenix area and in many national ones. He has been profiled numerous times in all the Valley's television stations and has received awards for both his cooking and for his charitable work. Most noticeable, the 1990 Golden Rule Award and the 1995 Humanitarian Award by the city of Phoenix.

### **About Beatrice**

Beatrice Companies, Inc. ([www.beatriceco.com](http://www.beatriceco.com)) manufactures and distributes high quality food and beverage products for the wholesale and retail markets, through our business units; Beatrice U.S. Food Corp., Beatrice Distribution, Inc., Beatrice International, Inc. and Beatrice Consumer & Industrial Products, Inc.