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To: Our Valued Customer

## RE: <u>Ready to Eat Status</u>

The Food Safety Modernization Act has provided a definition of ready to eat in the United States Code of Federal Regulations 21 part 117.3:

"Ready-to-eat food (RTE food) means any food that is normally eaten in its raw state or any other food, including a processed food, for which it is reasonably foreseeable that the food will be eaten without further processing that would significantly minimize biological hazards."

Our products are not normally eaten in their raw state. They are normally incorporated as ingredients into other food products. The manufacturing processes for those other food products often include further processing that would minimize biological hazards. However, we are aware that under certain circumstances, our products may be used in their raw state without such further processing. Therefore, it is reasonably foreseeable that they will be eaten without further processing.

The risk of biological hazards is controlled by:

- Robust manufacturing standards established in our global Quality Management System which is audited annually to be compliant with current GFSI and internal standards.
- These include, but are not limited to high GMP standards, robust environmental monitoring, positive release inventory controls, and GFSI compliant cleaning.
- A validation study has been completed in conjunction with a 17025 certified external laboratory to confirm a minimum of a 5-log reduction in Salmonella has been achieved. Our food safety plans for the products listed below have control measures to insure we meet the criteria of this study.

A body of data based on historical testing verifies these controls are effective.

Accordingly, we do not identify a biological hazard associated with consuming the products listed below without further processing.

Product(s):

NOVELOSE® 330 - 32300B00 Ultra-Tex 4 – 32166115 UNI-PURE® FL - TRUETRACE® IP – 32006000 UNI-PURE® IMF 2332 – 32236112 UNI-PURE IMF 2332 – 32236115 Please advise if additional information is required.

Sincerely, North America Quality Assurance

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