



SunOpta Inc. Announces Acquisition of Aux Mille et une Saisons Inc.

TORONTO--Dec. 18, 2006--SunOpta Inc. (NASDAQ:STKL)(TSX:SOY) today announced that it has acquired 100% of the outstanding shares of Aux Mille et une Saisons Inc. Aux Mille et une Saisons has been in business for over 20 years and is a leading Quebec based distributor of certified organic and natural grocery products supported by a long-term track record of profitable performance. The acquisition of Aux Mille et une Saisons will provide significant presence for the SunOpta Canadian Food Distribution Group within Quebec and solidifies the Group's position as the largest distributor of natural and organic foods in Canada.

The company operates from its recently expanded 32,000 square foot distribution centre located in Scotstown, east of Sherbrooke in the Eastern Townships of Quebec. With secondary warehousing facilities in Montreal, Aux Mille et une Saisons operates the most extensive natural and organic distribution network in Quebec and the Maritime provinces. In addition to strengthening SunOpta's national platform, the acquisition will benefit the Canadian organic market as a whole, by expanding distribution of exclusive brands throughout SunOpta's network in central and western Canada.

Monsieur Marc Periard will continue to manage the Aux Mille et une Saisons business and has been appointed Vice President of Organic and Natural Foods, Eastern Region. The companies focus and strength is in organic grocery products. The company employs 60 personnel, including 12 sales professionals who represent the largest natural and organic foods sales force in Quebec. The company's reputation for integrity, product knowledge and superior service has provided a history of strong growth with current revenues of approximately \$16 million. Aux Mille et une Saisons maintains a number of exclusive sourcing arrangements with Quebec organic producers as well as suppliers from around the world including, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Brazil and China.

Stephen Easterbrook, President of the SunOpta Canadian Food Distribution Group commented, "This acquisition will strengthen our national organic foods distribution platform, foster supply arrangements internationally as well as bring new product lines to each company. We have a great amount of respect for the business and philosophies that Marc Periard and the Aux Mille team have developed. We look forward to his guidance in directing the future development of SunOpta's organic and natural food business in Quebec and the Maritimes."

Marc Periard commented, "I am pleased to have Aux Mille et une Saisons join the SunOpta team. Our values, knowledge and healthy philosophies are a good match. I am especially pleased with SunOpta's alignment and support for the plans and programs I have for developing our business in Quebec, the Maritimes and beyond."

About SunOpta Inc.

SunOpta Inc. is an operator of high-growth ethical businesses, focusing on integrated business models in the natural and organic food markets. The Company has three business units: the SunOpta Food Group, which specializes in sourcing, processing and distribution of natural and organic food products integrated from seed through packaged products; the Opta Minerals Group, a producer, distributor, and recycler of environmentally friendly industrial materials; and the SunOpta BioProcess Group which engineers and markets proprietary steam explosion technology systems for the pulp, bio-fuel and food processing industries. Each of these business units has proprietary products and services that give it a solid competitive advantage in its sector.

Note to Editors: There should be an accent mark over the "e" in "Marc Periard" above.

CONTACT: SunOpta Inc.

Jeremy N. Kendall, Chairman & CEO
Steve Bromley, President & COO
John Dietrich, Vice President & CFO
Susan Wiekenkamp, Information Officer
Tel: 905-455-2528, ext 103
swiekenkamp@sunopta.com
Website: www.sunopta.com

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