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Sargento Foods Recognized for Product Innovation by Food Processing Magazine and American Business Awards

PLYMOUTH, Wis. – June 10, 2019 – Sargento Foods Inc. received two honors for product innovation from *Food Processing* magazine and the American Business Awards.

Food Processing recognized the Sargento innovation team as [Research and Development Team of the Year](#) in the large company category. Winners were determined by hundreds of votes from *Food Processing* readers on each nominated organization's innovation strategy and processes.

"This recognition is an honor and testament to our strategic approach to innovation," Kristi Jankowski, Executive Vice President – Innovation at Sargento Foods. "We strive to stay at the forefront of trends in cheese, packaging and R&D, while also ensuring we take the time to do things right. It's all baked into a rigorous product development process that we continue to hone and evolve as consumer tastes and our business changes."

In addition to the *Food Processing* honor, the 17th Annual American Business Awards® named Sargento Sweet Balanced Breaks® the winner of a Silver Stevie® Award in the New Product: Consumer category. The American Business Awards recognize the successes of US-based organizations, this year attracting more than 3,800 nominations across a wide range of categories.

The Sweet Balanced Breaks® entry focused on the growing momentum, variety and sales success of the product line, which allows customers to embrace the perfect balance of indulgence and nutrition. This is but the latest accolade for Sweet Balanced Breaks®, which also earned an IRI New Product Pacesetter award in 2017.

For more than 60 years, innovation has been at the center of the business and culture of Sargento. As the company that introduced America to resealable packaging, shredded cheese and cheese blends, Sargento continues this legacy today through its 32-member Innovation team. This team combines deep consumer insights with a passion for finding new ways to enjoy cheese, which has led to many dairy industry firsts and two Nielsen Breakthrough Innovation awards in the past five years.

About Sargento Foods Inc.:

With 2,300 employees and net sales of more than \$1 billion, Sargento Foods is a family-owned company that has been a leader in cheese for more than 65 years. Founded in 1953 in Plymouth, Wisconsin, Sargento created the world's first successful pre-packaged sliced and shredded natural cheeses. Today, Sargento Foods is still based in Wisconsin, where they manufacture and market amazing shredded, sliced and snack natural cheese products, as well as ingredients and sauces. Company leadership lives to serve local communities and employees, whom they refer to as the Sargento Family.

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