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Produce World Group Acquires TIO Ltd.

The Produce World Group has announced the acquisition of TIO Ltd. The company, based in Forres, Morayshire in Scotland, supplies organic root vegetables into retail and food service.

Neil Fraser, Executive Chairman, Produce World Group said: "The acquisition of TIO is a natural fit for Produce World, which is already a leader in the UK organic vegetable market. We believe that this will provide greater security both for suppliers and customers.

"It will allow us to secure the future of valuable organic land and the expertise of the Scottish organic growers who supply TIO. We will be able to secure the largest possible geographic footprint of our organic supply base and therefore the longest possible domestic growing season."

William Rose, Owner of TIO said: "Produce World has been a pioneer in organic vegetables for many years and has invested considerable resources into developing both its agronomy and a better understanding of consumers through its customer insight work. Becoming part of the Produce World Group will provide even greater opportunities for organic carrots from Scotland. I am looking forward to working with the Produce World team over the years to come."

The acquisition is part of the Produce World Group's ongoing plan to develop and grow a sustainable fresh produce business which will best serve the needs of its customers, suppliers, employees and shareholders.

Ends

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About Produce World Group

Produce World Group is one of the largest expert growers and suppliers of high quality fresh vegetables in Europe. It is a privately owned business, founded by the Burgess family in 1898, and the family ethos and values remain in place. The Produce World Group business is customer and category focused and it is an industry leader in sustainable and responsible agronomy, growing and lean supply chain management.

Its sourcing is a combination of produce from its own farming division Burgess Farms, joint-ventures, and collaborative working with dedicated grower groups, supplying a variety of root vegetables, potatoes, brassicas, alliums, and organic produce to leading retailers, food service and manufacturing customers.

In September 2013 Produce World Group featured in primetime TV programme Harvest in a bid to raise consumer awareness of how the nation's food gets from field to fork. The Produce World Group also secured three finalist slots at the 2013 Re:refresh awards for its CSR work, employee engagement and team management. Other successes include winning the Treading Lightly Waitrose Way Award, acknowledging the work Produce World Group does with innovative irrigation techniques.