

20th November 2014

Produce World Chatteris site honoured as 'Innovators'



Colleagues at Produce World Chatteris have been recognised as outstanding innovators within the Produce World Group, the UK's largest grower and supplier of fresh, high quality vegetables, at its annual Pride of Produce World Group Awards.

The Chatteris P5 Team won the 'Outstanding Innovation of the Year Award' for its onion management solution in the conditioning regime on the Chatteris site. The solution identifies the number of onions in the conditioning process and avoids them being continuously dried at this stage. This has led to less onions being rejected for packing due to excessive drying.

The award was presented by the Produce World Group Farming Director Jason Burgess., who said: "The team put their heads together and came up with a solution that not only solved stock management issues, but also delivered higher quality onions for our customers. Instead of investing in new systems, the team implemented a creative solution which ensured that everyone knew how many onions were in the conditioning stage of the process at Chatteris."

Andrew Holding from Produce World Chatteris said: “The solution is a real team effort with each person taking responsibility for different elements in addressing this problem. The new solution means we know exactly how many onions have been conditioned, leading to accurate reports on conditioning history and less issues with stock management.”

Jon Murgotroyd, who was a driving force behind the P5 team, earned a first runner-up place for the ‘Colleague of the Year Award’, with his work ensuring that the site delivered significant cost savings. He was recognised for consistently delivering a fantastic service and working effectively with other departments across the site.

The other team at Chatteris recognised at the awards was the Logistics Yard team which was the first runner-up in the ‘Team Special Recognition Award’ for having a significant impact on the site’s financial results due to their diligent and hard work.

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Produce World Group Website: www.produceworld.co.uk **Produce World Group Twitter:** [@produceworld](https://twitter.com/produceworld)

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.

Produce World Group is the UK’s only fresh produce company that regularly donates produce to Fareshare, which enables the charity to plan more effectively each year. In October 2014 the Produce World Group was recognised for its work with Fareshare and Feeding the 5000 for redistributing this produce to help tackle food poverty across the UK by winning the CRTG Best Food Waste Initiative of the Year award. The Waitrose Way Awards also recognised this work, with the Produce World Group being highly commended for its entry into the Treading Lightly – Waste award category. In addition, the Produce World Group was highly recommended in the Champion British award category for its work with the BBC primetime TV programme Harvest, which aimed to raise consumer awareness of how the nation’s food gets from field to fork.

Produce World Group is leading the way in sustainability, research and innovation in the agriculture sector. In late 2013 the Produce World Group, in collaboration with other commercial organisations and academic institutions, was awarded funding through Sainsbury’s Organic Grant to look at innovative pest controls to improve the growth of organic brassicas. Through Agri-Tech Catalyst funding support, the group is working with Cranfield University to build on the success of the ‘Soil-for-Life’ project, which aims to inform on-farm decision making and drive innovation in soil management.

Media Enquiries:

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