



*in action*

**FOCUS ON CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY**

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## **OSI Group Commits to Advancing Best Practices and Education in Animal Welfare**

### ***Global Meat Processing Company Sponsors Multiple Programs***

OSI Group, LLC has taken steps to advance industry best practices and education in animal welfare since becoming an ongoing sponsor of the Professional Animal Auditor Certification Organization (PAACO) in 2013.

The company also committed to an annual sponsorship of the North American Meat Institute's (NAMI) Foundation for Meat & Poultry Research & Education Animal Care & Handling Conference, also as of 2013.

Additionally, OSI's membership in the Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin (PDPW) has extended the company's efforts to connect on animal welfare issues in a related industry.

In 2018, OSI became associated with the Animal Agriculture Alliance, further demonstrating the company's commitment to continuous improvement in practices regarding agriculture, food security and animal welfare.

All of these organizations are highly respected within the food industry, and by partnering with them, OSI is able to further demonstrate its significant commitment to animal welfare education and improvement.

#### **PAACO Auditor Certification Program Sponsorship**

PAACO's mission is to promote the humane treatment of animals through education and certification of animal auditors, as well as the review and certification of animal audit instruments, assessments and programs. Each year OSI will be a sponsor of one of the two Meat Plant Auditor Training events that occur. Additionally, OSI will sponsor one of the two annual Poultry Welfare Auditor Training events held by PAACO.

As part of the PAACO sponsorship, OSI will send one representative to the training on its behalf. The OSI Quality Systems and Food Protection Department can choose an internal candidate for this training or OSI can choose to pass on the registration for this paid training to an employee of one of its raw material vendors that can benefit from the additional education.

#### **AMIF Animal Care & Handling Conference Sponsorship**

OSI is an ongoing sponsor to the annual AMIF Animal Care & Handling Conference. This is the leading animal welfare education opportunity for companies in the meat industry, and includes three focused tracks: Management and Policy, Applied Pig Handling, and Applied Cattle Handling.

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#### **About OSI**

OSI Group, LLC is a 100-plus year old, privately held corporation that has been a global leader in supplying value-added protein items and other food products to leading foodservice and retail brands for more than sixty years. The company currently has more than 65 facilities in 17 countries, with its global headquarters located in Aurora, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago.

**A World of Food Solutions**

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### **Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin (PDPW) Membership**

OSI is a Corporate Member of the Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin (PDPW). Formed in 1992, PDPW has grown into a network of 1,600 members from 18 states across the country. The PDPW members represent every type and size of dairy operation, and are joined by other businesses associated with the industry. As the largest producer-led organization in the nation, thousands of dairy producers rely on PDPW for continuing education and news that affects them.

OSI chose for the first time to become a member of a dairy producer organization in an effort to connect and interact on animal care, handling and other sustainability challenges that dairy producers face. Through a greater understanding of actions all the way from "farm to fork," all segments of the food production industry will be able to work together towards continuous improvement.

### **Animal Agriculture Alliance**

The Animal Agriculture Alliance is an organization that helps bridge the communication between the farm and the consumer. The alliance stands by three words for their motto: connect, engage, and protect. The alliance members *connect* food industry stakeholders to provide them responses to upcoming issues, *engage* with food chain members to further educate them on modern animal agriculture, and *protect* by exposing those who threaten food security.

OSI became a member of the Animal Agriculture Alliance in 2018. The Alliance team is experienced with subjects including animal rights activist tactics, farm and plant security, crisis management, consumer engagement and advocating for agriculture on social media. OSI appreciates the Alliance team efforts and passion for agriculture, food security, and animal welfare.

"It's rewarding for me to assist in the continuation of a legacy of supporting well-recognized organizations on behalf of OSI Group," said Jennifer Raspaldo, director of quality, materials – North America. "These annual contributions and memberships exhibit OSI's serious commitment to continuous improvement in animal welfare."

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