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**Layfield Packaging
first B.C. company
to receive food
safety certificate for
packaging materials**



PAC President & CEO James Downham with Tom Rose, President & CEO of the Layfield Group of Companies

Richmond, B.C. – based Layfield Packaging is the first British Columbia packaging company to be certified for a recently developed food safety standard for packaging materials.

The standard, known as PACsecure, was developed by an 80 – member committee of The Packaging Association (PAC) in conjunction with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, says James Downham, President and CEO of the Association.

Mr. Downham says PAC has produced five new food standards covering 24 different packaging manufacturing processes for flexible and rigid plastics, paper, metal and glass packaging materials that harmonize with the international protocol used by the global food and beverage industry: Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP).

Developed over the past six years with HACCP-based funding from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the new HACCP PACsecure standards are a systematic approach that addresses biological, chemical and physical hazards through preventative action rather than by finished product inspection and is recognized by the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization.

“Based on our knowledge, the new PACsecure standards are the most comprehensive food safety standards for packaging materials in the world. They have already been approved by the Food Safety Alliance for Packaging– representing most of the major food producers in North America. In addition, we have requests for them from organizations and government agencies from around the world,” Downham adds.

Leading Manufacturer:

Tom Rose, President and CEO, comments “our customers look to us to provide them with higher performance packaging and want their risks reduced – as a leading vertically-integrated provider of specialized flexible packaging we offering sophisticated films that are printed laminated and converted into a wide range of industrial and consumer applications. We felt it was our moral responsibility to ensure our packaging is safe from bugs, glass, rodents, and other contaminations by implementing a rigorous program like PACsecure.

“Our manufacturing capabilities specialize in offering solutions that are environmentally friendly, technically superior and lower in cost.”

He says the PACsecure certification, undertaken by the auditing firm QMI-SAI Global of Toronto, was implemented to ensure safety of packaging products manufactured and delivered for food packaging.

Mr. Downham says HACCP benefits companies such as Layfield not only in improving its manufacturing processes, but a large number of domestic and food producers are requiring their packaging suppliers to have a recognized food safety system for packaging materials in place.

Layfield is joining a growing list of companies to become certified PACsecure compliant - including Atlantic Packaging of Toronto, Jones Packaging of London, On., and Farnell Packaging of Dartmouth, N.S.

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