ENERGY COSTS SAVINGS OF SPRAY DRYING AT HEART OF IDF/INRA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SPRAY DRIED DAIRY PRODUCTS

St-Malo, France, 22 June 2012 – Different uses of current technologies can help reduce energy costs of spray drying of dairy products and enhance functional properties of dairy powders, says IDF and INRA expert Pierre Schuck.

The 5th International Symposium on Spray Dried Dairy Products took place in St Malo, France, and marks the first collaboration on the topic between the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA) and the International Dairy Federation (IDF).

Speakers recognized the importance of pursuing research on lactose crystallization given the complexity of the topic due to the high amount of whey types.

The 2012 edition also featured several new sessions, including an economic presentation on global trade of dairy powders, a commercial session for companies as well as a conference dedicated to nutrition and the nutritional impact of dairy powders.

Benoît Rouyer, CNIEL and IDF expert, noted that global trade of dairy powders is on the rise and underlined the high volume of investments worldwide in dairy powders.

Pierre Schuck, Chair of the Organizing Committee, said:

“INRA and IDF experts have identified new uses for current technologies to reduce energy costs of spray drying processes, such as high concentration systems and spray drying of these high concentrated products. I’m delighted to see that companies, academics and researchers are working together towards common goals.”

Nico van Belzen, IDF Director General, said:

“This first IDF/INRA collaboration on spray drying dairy products is a true success. All presentations underlined the importance of spray drying in the industry’s efforts to provide safe and quality dairy products. The combination of expertise of IDF and INRA experts and all stakeholders of the dairy chain brings about crucial developments in research and development.”

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About IDF
IDF is committed to providing science-based information for the benefit of the dairy sector as well as to international organizations, governments and legislators. IDF works through various Standing Committees and Task Forces on issues that are common to the dairy industry in all countries. IDF places great emphasis and importance on ensuring that the work conducted by the Standing Committees and Task Forces are of the highest scientific integrity and are relevant and applicable to the dairy sector and industry as a whole. For more information, www.fil-idf.org.

About INRA – STLO
Most scientific problems, as regards both the production and the transformation of these two raw materials, are common to both the dairy and egg sectors. Located in Rennes, the INRA-AGROCAMPUS OUEST Joint Research Unit for the Science and Technology of Milk and Eggs (STLO) has around 100 members, including 72 permanent staff, 25 PhD students and 10 R&D professionals.

About SDDP 2012
For the very first time, the 2012 event is organized by INRA, the French National Institute for Agricultural Research — as research institution, in collaboration with IDF, the International Dairy Federation — as the international dairy industry platform. This event aims to bring together research and industry leaders to share ideas and information about new developments in two complementary fields of science and technology – the manufacture of dairy powders and the functionality of these products as food ingredients. The translation of research findings into industrial practice will also facilitate the development of better modelling and control of spray drying processes and the application of new alternative technologies for the manufacture of dried dairy ingredients.