



Micro Technologies Assists with Cooke/Irish Ova Deal

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Richmond, Maine, January 19, 2006 – Micro Technologies is celebrating the joint efforts that culminated last month in the successful shipment of North American salmon ova to the European Union. Working in concert with Cooke Aquaculture, a Canadian family-owned company, and IFA Aquaculture, the representative organization of the Irish finfish and shellfish industries, Micro Technologies' role was to satisfy the stringent fish health, traceability, and biosecurity standards imposed and expected by the Irish Government and European Union.

Salmon growers worldwide are seeking salmon ova from broodstock that are carefully bred and selected for traits related to health, growth rate, performance, and fish quality. Animal health has become a key issue for clients and governments as aquatic species and their ova are transported domestically and globally. An independent aquatic animal health laboratory, Micro Technologies' veterinary and scientific protocols and standards provide industry and governments assurance as to fish health status and certification. Broodstock-related services include sampling and testing, regulatory assistance, and performing veterinary audits to document biosecurity protocols at holding facilities.

Cooke's innovations and controls in breeding, husbandry, health and stock management, biosecurity, and production – in addition to reducing the levels of fish disease and stress – are producing prime quality seafood that is the hallmark of products that from Maine and eastern Canada and that meets the demands of North American consumers.

"We are very pleased with this groundbreaking sale to industry colleagues in the EU," said Glenn Cooke, CEO of Cooke Aquaculture. "It demonstrates the high caliber of our operations and of the leadership provided by Dr. Jake Elliott, our Director of Technical and Freshwater Operations, in developing a world class salmon broodstock program." Mr. Cooke also pointed to the significant role played by Micro Technologies as facilitators of this deal. "For more than a decade, we have looked to Micro Technologies to provide third party verification of the health status of our animals and their products. We continue to rely on their professional expertise as we move beyond the borders of eastern Canada and the United States and look for business opportunities in the European Union."

IFA Aquaculture was intrinsically involved in the deal between Cooke and the Irish salmon industry. In representing the finfish industry, IFA Aquaculture works to protect Ireland's achievement of the highest fish health status in the European Union by assuring the quality of ova being imported and its certification as to Irish and European disease and health testing rules and criteria... "essential to maintaining our global markets and extensive customer base," remarked Richie Flynn, Executive Secretary of IFA Aquaculture.

"Micro Technologies' participation was of paramount importance to the whole commercial success of this deal," emphasized Joe McElwee, IFA Aquaculture's Development Officer. "We began dealing with them from the very genesis of the project. Their high quality work included invaluable assistance in the whole complicated area of disease testing, certification, and interfacing with Canadian, Irish, and US officials. The combined capabilities of Cooke Aquaculture, IFA Aquaculture, and Micro Technologies have resulted in importing ova with the highest health status achieved and certified."

"We were grateful for the opportunity to support a significant transaction between Cooke Aquaculture and the IFA," explained Bill Keleher of Micro Technologies, Inc. "We believe this deal holds great promise for future collaborations between salmon farmers in Maine and eastern Canada and in Ireland and other parts of the European Union."

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Micro Technologies, Inc. is a USDA-approved, private laboratory and recognized leader in aquatic animal health research and solutions. The laboratory's work throughout North America and abroad strengthens the health, cultivation, and biosecurity of cold and warm water finfish, bivalves, crustaceans, and other species.

Aquaculture farmers, agencies, researchers, and extension programs routinely turn to the laboratory for help in solving tough problems and protecting aquaculture health. Services in addition to those already mentioned include investigative research and diagnostics, custom vaccines, consulting, and training.

Visit our web site at <http://www.microtechnologies.biz>

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"Working together to keep aquaculture healthy."