

P R E S S R E L E A S E

AN TAOISEACH, BRIAN COWEN, T.D. OFFICIALLY OPENS NEW €8.5 MILLION GLENISK ORGANIC MANUFACTURING FACILITY

(Offaly, 7 July 2008) An Taoiseach, Brian Cowen, T.D., officially opened Glenisk's new manufacturing facility at Killeigh, Co Offaly. The family operated organic dairy unveiled its new state-of-the-art eco-friendly plant following an investment of €8.5 million. The new facility has enabled Glenisk to expand its range of organic milks and yogurts and the company is now actively pursuing new markets. In recent months, Glenisk's workforce has increased by 30, bringing the total number employed to 55. As part of the company's ambitious expansion programme, Glenisk is also seeking to recruit 100 new farming families to supply organic milk. Currently, Glenisk works with 50 organic farmers across the island of Ireland, and procures 90% of the organic milk produced in Ireland.

In keeping with the Cleary family's commitment to protecting the environment and reducing carbon emissions, the new Glenisk plant is powered using Airtricity. Other green initiatives at Glenisk include a strict recycling policy, using waste water efficiencies through reed beds and the conversion of all company vehicles to bio-fuel.

Speaking at the official opening, An Taoiseach, Brian Cowen, T.D. said: "Today's official opening marks a new phase in the growth of Glenisk. This €8.5 million redevelopment is made possible thanks to Glenisk's own innovation and resources and also from grant-aid from the Dairy Investment Fund. It will enable Glenisk to increase its capacity and facilitate production of an extended range of products, as well as enabling the business to expand into new markets. All good news for employment in this area; for organic farmers, North and South; and, of course, for the consumer."

Mr Vincent Cleary, Managing Director, Glenisk, said: "We are very proud of our new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility and we are honoured that the Taoiseach has officially opened the plant. Glenisk is celebrating 21 years in business this year, a period which has seen extraordinary growth in organics. To ensure that this growth continues, we fully support the Government's commitment to grow organic acreage in this country from 1% of agricultural land to 5% by 2010, as outlined in the current programme for government."

Further information is available at www.glenisk.com.

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Note to Editors:

Glenisk was established in 1987 by the Cleary family in Killeigh, Co Offaly. Glenisk converted to organic production in 1995, combining years of experience gleaned from the European food industry with a recognition of organics' potential in the Irish dairy market. Today, Glenisk continues to operate from Killeigh and is run by six of the Cleary siblings. In 2006, Stonyfield Europe, a subsidiary of US company Stonyfield Farm, the world's leading organic yogurt manufacturer, acquired a 37% minority stake in Glenisk.