



## Employee engagement scores double in a year at Produce World site

April 2013

The UK's largest grower and supplier of fresh vegetables can announce an impressive uplift in employee engagement following its fourth consecutive annual employee survey, which was run in partnership with the Great Place to Work Institute®.

Produce World awaited the results with great anticipation and according to the Great Place to Work Institute® the most recent scores are 'astonishing' because overall positive engagement has increased from an average of 47% to 64%.

Produce World Chatteris doubled its overall positive engagement score from 35% to 70% and Produce World Yaxley achieved an overall score of 80%. The Great Place to Work Institute® observed that the results had improved across all indicators in the survey, which had never been seen before.



David Frost, Group HR Director at Produce World said: "We are delighted with the recent employee engagement scores. To see such a huge increase across the Group during a period of large scale restructuring is a credit to the leaders across the business and the commitment of all colleagues has been fantastic.

"We believe it has been achieved through our people strategy and a collective leadership commitment to improve engagement. This approach has been methodical and clear, but critically it has been involving and collaborative."

The survey was conducted in six languages, reflecting the multicultural nature of Produce World's workforce, and was completed by well over 80% of the company's 735 employees.

The survey results from previous years provided the ideal platform for the senior management team to truly understand what needed to change in order for the business to achieve its goals.

David continued: “Whilst we are very encouraged by the improvement in employee engagement we are certainly not complacent. Leaders at all levels in Produce World are committed to maintain the progress that has been made as we continue to build a strong and sustainable business for the future.”

**Ends**

**Notes for Editors**

Produce World is one of the largest expert growers and suppliers of high quality fresh vegetables in Europe. It is a privately owned business, founded by the Burgess family in 1898, and the family ethos and values remain in place. The Produce World business is customer and category focused and it is an industry leader in sustainable and responsible agronomy, growing and lean supply chain management. Its sourcing is a combination of produce from its own farms, joint-ventures, and collaborative working with dedicated grower groups, supplying a variety of root vegetables, potatoes, brassicas, alliums, and organic produce to leading retailers, food service and manufacturing customers.

The company received the Waitrose Technical Excellence Award in June 2011, as well as the re:fresh Innovation of the Year and Packer of the Year awards in May 2011. Its Growing Trust CSR programme, established in 2007, prioritises Responsible Sourcing, along with Environmental Stewardship, Community Impact and Workplace Culture.

**Media Enquiries:**

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