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**James Geyer to Retire from Foremost Farms USA;
Doug Wilke Named to Post as Vice President-Manufactured Products**

BARABOO, WI -- Foremost Farms USA announced today that James Geyer, vice president-ingredient division, will retire from the cooperative Dec. 31, 2006. Geyer has been the executive responsible for the cooperative's whey and butter processing and marketing strategies for the past eight years.

Geyer's career spans 43 years and includes the following positions:

- 1963 – research scientist, Swift & Company, Chicago, Ill.
- 1967 – plant chemist, The Kroger Company, Marion, Ind.
- 1969 - central control laboratory manager, Foremost-McKesson, Appleton, Wis.
- 1983 - quality assurance manager, Foremost Whey Division of McKesson, Appleton, Wis.
- 1984 – quality assurance manager, Wisconsin Dairies Cooperative, Baraboo, Wis.
- 1986 – plant manager, Wisconsin Dairies' Appleton (John Street), Wis., plant
- 1987 – specialty products division manager, Wisconsin Dairies, Baraboo, Wis.
- 1989 – vice president-technology, Wisconsin Dairies and Foremost Farms, Baraboo, Wis.

He holds a bachelor's degree from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., and a master's degree from Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich.

“Jim has brought extensive technical and leadership expertise in whey processing to this cooperative,” said David Fuhrmann, Foremost Farms president. “His significant contribution to Foremost Farms has been positioning us as the recognized leader in the whey processing industry. We wish he and his wife, Bonnie, a happy and long retirement.” Geyer will remain on the job until mid-November.

On Sept. 1, Douglas Wilke, vice president-cheese division since 2001, will become vice president-manufactured products and will continue reporting to Fuhrmann. This structural change means that Wilke will oversee the strategies for Foremost Farms' 10 cheese and 7 ingredient plants and the product development, quality and marketing functions for all products made at these facilities.

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Reporting to Wilke will be the following team of operations, quality, product development and marketing directors:

- Al Larson, Director of Operations-Cheese
- Mark Peterson, Director of Operations-Cheese
- Wayne Gjersvig, Director of Operations-Ingredient
- Patrick Mathiowetz, Director of Sales and Marketing-Cheese
- Keith Gretenhart, Director of Sales and Marketing-Ingredient
- Brian Cords, Director of Cheese Technology
- Ann Berres-Olivotti, Director of Technical Services-Ingredient
- Tim Greenway, Director of Planning and Business Analysis
- David Wilson, Director of Production Services

Wilke's dairy industry career started in 1984 as a production employee with Morning Glory Farms Cooperative, Appleton, Wis. He was promoted to production supervisor in 1989, operations manager in 1993 and plant manager in 1995.

Wilke and Geyer will work together in the coming months to transition the functional activities into one, new division.

Operating since Jan. 1, 1995, Foremost Farms USA ranks among the top ten dairy cooperatives in the U.S., based on milk volume. The cooperative operates 20 manufacturing facilities and one milk transfer station for its 3,500 dairy farmer-members in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio.

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Note: Digital photos of James Geyer and Doug Wilke are available by contacting Laura Mihm at (608) 355-8798 or sending an e-mail to laura.mihm@foremostfarms.com.