



MINNESOTA GROCERS ASSOCIATION

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Grocers Recognize Pat Graiziger

Pat Graiziger, Group Vice President of Dean Foods, was honored by the Minnesota Grocers Association with its 2008 Outstanding Vendor Award. This award is given to individuals who show innovation in customer support, excellence in customer service as well as contributions and involvement in the Minnesota Grocers Association. This presentation was made at the MGA Annual Convention in Brainerd, MN.

Graiziger began his career in the dairy business by selling butter and cheese for Land O'Lakes. In 1983 he moved to the Twin Cities and spent the next 10 years working for KEMPS, a leading producer of dairy products and frozen desserts with a strong regional presence in the Upper Midwest, he then returned to Land O' Lakes which was purchased by Dean Foods in 2000.

Dean Foods is one of the leading food and beverage companies in the country. They are the largest processor and distributor of milk and other dairy products operating more than 100 plants in the United States and employ more than 26,000 people. In his current position, as Group Vice President, Graiziger manages 10 production facilities and about \$1 billion dollars in sales. His incredible work ethic and leadership skills have contributed to the success of his company.

Graiziger began his work with the Minnesota Grocers Association in 1984 as a strong voice for the industry's vendor community working diligently to support his retail partners and issues that are important to the industry. Graiziger's dedication is evident as he has served on the MGA Foundation Board since the mid-90s. The MGA Foundation supports education opportunities for the grocery industry as well as giving community grants.

He, his wife Carolyn, and three children, Kelly, Ellie and Jay, reside in Minneapolis, MN.

The Minnesota Grocers Association is a state trade association representing the food retail industry since 1897. With over 200 retail members operating nearly 1,200 stores statewide, as well as 120 manufacturers and distributors, the MGA is truly the voice of the industry. Our member companies employ over 85,000 union and non-union Minnesotans. Focusing on the importance of the consumers, careers and communities, we actively advance the common interests of all those engaged in any aspect of the retail food industry as a leader and advocate in government affairs.

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