

Media Monitoring

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Headline : Etika opens NZ's state-of-the-art bottling plant

Etika opens NZ's state-of-the-art bottling plant

ETIKA International Holdings Ltd, a company listed on the Mainboard of the Singapore Stock Exchange, has opened New Zealand's (NZ) first state-of-the-art UHT Aseptic PET bottling plant.

The project was pioneered by the group's majority-owned subsidiary, Etika Dairies NZ Ltd (EDNZ), a joint venture (JV) between Hawkes Bay investors and Etika (NZ) Ltd, it said in a statement.

The move marks "a major step forward" for Etika in the contract manufacture of dairy, juice and water products for both the local and export markets using a world-first technology — UHT liquid infant formula in a patented teat cap PET bottle.

Etika chairman Datuk Jaya Tan said the company is always on the lookout to break new ground while it grows its businesses. EDNZ is managed by



Etika's Jaya (third from left) with NZ Prime Minister John Key (fourth from left) and other invited guests at the plant opening

one of the group's partners in the JV, businessman Neil McGarva, who has 27 years' experience in the New Zealand food & beverage industry.

McGarva, a former government Food Safety Auditor, established "Pandoro Bakeries", a national bread manufacturing operation in 1992.

The plant is expected to enter into commercial production by October, the statement added.

In July 2010, Etika acquired a 100% equity interest in Susu

Lembu Asli (Johor) Sdn Bhd and Susu Lembu Asli Marketing Sdn Bhd for RM89.5 million cash. The transaction was completed in January.