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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCS RATED 5-STAR CERTIFIER BY BRITISH RETAIL CONSORTIUM

Scientific Certification Systems at the top of BRC's list of accredited certification bodies

August 3, 2011 - Emeryville, CA – British Retail Consortium (BRC), an internationally recognized food safety standard, has rated Scientific Certification Systems (SCS, www.scscertified.com) an “excellent” provider with 5 stars, among certification bodies accredited to audit to their standard. SCS, an accredited BRC certifier since March 2010, recently conducted BRC audits for Ann’s House of Nuts, Produce Exchange and Taylor Farms.

SCS is a 27-year leader in food safety auditing and training services for growers, food manufacturers, distributors and retailers, including HACCP, SQF, GAP/GMP, GlobalGAP, TN10, BRC. SCS serves hundreds of growers and food producers at any given time, also providing micro- and macro-pathogen testing, flavor analysis, responsible sourcing certification, and pesticide residue testing.

The BRC star rating system aims to ensure the integrity and consistency of the BRC Standards certification scheme for all users. Rules and guidance detail the responsibilities of the certification body and auditors. Adherence to and understanding of these rules are monitored by the BRC Compliance Team. The performance of certification bodies is formally reviewed every six months.

SCS was assessed in these five key areas before earning its 5-star rating:

- Quality of written audit reports
- Compliance to protocols (how audits are undertaken and reported)
- Auditor registration and compliance to training, experience and competence requirements
- Speed of upload of audit data to the BRC Directory www.brcdirectory.com
- Communication with BRC

“We are proud to be recognized by BRC as a leader in the food safety field,” said Heena Patel, Director of Food & Agriculture Auditing Services at SCS. “The SCS brand has always stood for accuracy, scientific rigor, and excellence in the delivery of our services to clients. We’re excited that BRC has recognized those traits in us and found a way to assist discerning food companies in choosing the best providers.”

According to Karen Betts, Compliance Manager for BRC Global Standards at BRC: “The BRC has been undertaking its compliance assessment system for 2 years now and responding to feedback from stakeholders that they would like to know the results of the assessment of KPIs. BRC have decided to publish the results in the form of the star rating. This has allowed time for certification bodies to clearly understand our requirements and, where necessary, put systems in place to ensure that the requirements are met,” she stated in a recent email to SCS.

The BRC standard is recognized by the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), a collaboration of food safety experts representing retailers, manufacturers, food service companies, and food supply chain service providers.

To find out more about the comprehensive line of services offered by SCS to food and agriculture companies, go to www.scscertified.com/foodag

Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) has been providing global leadership in third-party food quality, sustainability and environmental certification, auditing, testing and standards development for more than 25 years. SCS programs span a wide range of industries including green building, product manufacturing, food and agriculture, forestry, retailing and more.

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