

29 August 2008

## SYMPHONY ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES PLC

## Grupo Bimbo Mexico Launch d₂w<sup>™</sup> Eco-compatible Degradable Plastic Packaging

Symphony Environmental Technologies Plc ("Symphony" or "the Group"), the degradable plastics and waste-to-energy Group, is very pleased to announce through its wholly owned subsidiary, Symphony Environmental Ltd. ("SEL"), that a major environmentally responsible initiative for  $d_2w^{TM}$  plastic technology has been launched in Mexico with Grupo Bimbo ("Bimbo").

Bimbo has decided to use  $d_2w^{\text{TM}}$  additive technology in its packaging following extensive successful trials. The distribution and support services will be led by Symphony's Mexican, Central American and Latin American distribution network.

The new packaging containing  $d_2w^{\text{TM}}$  additive technology will be in all main supermarkets and retail outlets in Mexico City (population 18 million) from this week and in other locations throughout Mexico and Latin America within the next few months.

This new eco-compatible packaging is being manufactured with  $d_2w^{\text{TM}}$  additive technology for Bimbo by many plastic producers throughout Mexico and Latin America and each supplier will be working to strict quality guidelines that have been issued by Symphony and Bimbo.

This major breakthrough into the Mexican and Latin American food-sector was achieved through Symphony's official distributor, Plasticos Degradables S.A de C.V., which has been working closely with the Bimbo team for more than a year.

A joint press conference was held at the J W Marriot in Polanco, Mexico City at 10.30am local time on Thursday 28 August 2008 to formally launch the initiative. This important event was attended by 42 members of the press and included national television and radio.

**Michael Laurier, Chief Executive** of Symphony Environmental Technologies plc, said:

"We are delighted to be associated with Grupo Bimbo on their initiatives to improve their packaging products with the incorporation of  $d_2w^{TM}$  additive technology. We are also excited to be involved with creating some important

environmental changes in Mexico and Latin America and playing a part in Bimbo's strategy of excellence which forms part of their efforts to continually improve their corporate and social responsibility standards. This is also a major step forward and a very important event. We are honoured and delighted to be creating history with the Grupo Bimbo for the betterment of the environment as well as for the plastic industry in general."

#### For further information, please contact:

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### Further information on Bimbo Group of Companies:

GRUPO BIMBO was established in Mexico City in 1945 and is considered today as one of the most important bakeries in the world due to its production volume, sales and brand positioning.

In Mexico, as well as in many Latin American countries, it is the largest food company and undisputed leader in the national baking industry.

Grupo Bimbo produces, distributes and markets over 5,000 products which include variety of bread loafs, pastries, cookies, candy, chocolates, sweet and salted snacks. In addition to this extensive range they produce many other types of processed foods.

Bimbo has more than 100 prestigious brands such as: Bimbo, Marinela, Milpa Real, Tía Rosa, Mrs. Baird's, Oroweat, Entenmann's, Thomas', Boboli, Barcel, Ricolino, Coronado, La Corona, Pastelerías El Globo, Suandy and Lara.

Bimbo operates in Mexico, U.S.A., Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Panama, Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay, Paraguay, the Czech Republic and China. Bimbo has 83 plants, 5 associates and 3 trading agencies.

In 2007, Grupo Bimbo net sales amounted \$6.7 billion dollars and its shares have traded on the Mexican Stock Exchange since 1980.

The Group has the most extensive distribution network in the country and one of the largest in the American Continent. It exceeds 35,500 routes and guarantees that the products are delivered uninterruptedly and fresh to more than 1,000,000 points of sale located in 18 countries.

Further information on the Bimbo Group can be found at <a href="http://www.grupobimbo.com.mx">http://www.grupobimbo.com.mx</a>

# Further information on the Symphony Environmental Technologies Group of companies:

SYMPHONY ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES PLC is a world leader in oxo-biodegradable plastic technology. The technology is recognised by the  $d_2w^{\text{TM}}$  droplet logo on thousands of tonnes of plastic products. In the last 12 months enough  $d_2w^{\text{TM}}$  pro-degradant additive has been supplied to make more than **5 billion plastic products** 

Symphony has a diverse and growing customer base and has successfully established itself as an international business. Its  $d_2w^{\text{TM}}$  products can be found in more than 50 countries around the world. Symphony is proud to be a member of the Oxo-biodegradable Plastics Association (www.biodeg.org).

Symphony is also developing innovative waste-to-energy technology and cost-effective processes to convert plastics, tyres and other waste-streams into valuable products.

Further information on the Symphony Group can be found at <u>www.degradable.net</u>