Lotus Foods Names Andrew Burke President/COO

Lotus Foods, the leading heirloom and organic rice and rice ramen company, has hired Andrew Burke as President/COO. The position is the first C-level hire in the history of Lotus Foods, which will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2020. Co-Founders & Co-CEOs Caryl Levine and Ken Lee will remain in their roles and continue to act as the company’s visionaries.

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Burke will partner with Levine and Lee on the strategic vision for Lotus Foods to drive future growth. In the newly created role, Burke will have direct oversight of all aspects of the company’s operations, supply chain management, finance, marketing and sales functions. Burke brings decades of leadership and relevant industry experience having been CEO of TCHO Chocolate, where he led a new corporate strategy with the goal of efficiently scaling the business, and holding prior senior roles at E&J Gallo Winery, Diamond Foods and Nature Box.

Levine and Lee will begin to devote more time to their mission-related endeavors including expanding the number of rice growers using System of Rice Intensification (SRI) farming techniques to reduce water usage and carbon emissions while supporting the livelihoods of family growers, who are mainly women. They will also be increasing their work with OSC2, the Climate Collaborative, Regenerative Organic Certification, as well as the B Corp Collectives #WeTheChange, and The B Corp Climate Collective.

“It’s an exciting time at Lotus Foods and we couldn’t be more thrilled to bring Andrew onto the leadership team as we look ahead to the next 25 years,” said Caryl Levine and Ken Lee. “Andrew’s ability to lead teams and identify growth opportunities together with his collaborative style makes him an ideal fit. The shift will allow us to have more time to fuel our passions to fight climate change and support women worldwide. We started Lotus Foods as a way to celebrate good food while also making a difference in the world and this is the next step in fulfilling both of those goals.”

For more information visit Lotus Foods online and follow on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter.

About Lotus Foods
Since 1995, Lotus Foods has partnered in direct and fair trade with small family farmers around the world who are growing rice more sustainably while preserving rice biodiversity. Lotus Foods’ product line includes pigmented heirloom and organic rice varieties such as Forbidden Rice®, Jade Pearl RiceTM, Red Rice, traditional Basmati and Jasmine Rice and Tricolor Rice as well as Rice Ramen, Arare Rice Crackers, Pad Thai Rice Noodles and Rice Ramen Noodle Soup Cups. Products are available at major retailers throughout the US and Canada including Whole Foods, Costco, Wegmans, Target and Amazon.com. As a certified B Corporation, Lotus Foods is committed to “Changing How Rice Is Grown around the World” by focusing on rice grown using the System of Rice Intensification (SRI), which we call More Crop Per DropTM. SRI minimizes water usage, improves soil health, increases yields, empowers women, and reduces methane emissions.
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