

AIM-PROGRESS Members Hold Responsible Sourcing Forum in Miami

Nestlé, Givaudan and Bacardi Limited promote manufacturers' and suppliers' joint commitment to improve responsible sourcing standards and sustainability of the supply chain.

Miami, March 5, 2013 – Nestlé, Givaudan and Bacardi Limited co-sponsored an AIM-PROGRESS Responsible Sourcing Forum to promote responsible sourcing standards in the Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) supply chain.

Over 300 representatives from more than 190 consumer goods suppliers and manufacturers came together in Miami on March 4 to share best practices and promote common evaluation methods to improve performance. The Forum provided an opportunity for suppliers to engage with business leaders from the brand industry and other suppliers to exchange views, share learnings regarding responsible sourcing practices, and identify actionable next steps. It also provided an opportunity for suppliers to gain a better understanding of audit requirements based upon common expectations from the AIM-PROGRESS members that allows for suppliers to avoid duplicate audits, therefore reducing “audit fatigue.”

Highlights of the Forum included a panel discussion with senior business leaders from Nestlé, Givaudan and Bacardi Limited on the importance of responsible sourcing, moderated by AIM-PROGRESS chairman, David Lawrence. “It is exciting to see such an engaged response from the North American supplier community,” Lawrence stated. “AIM-PROGRESS member companies are taking a clear leadership position in the consumer goods sector with regards to the principles of responsible sourcing and this will have a large impact on the lives of people who work for these suppliers. This has been insightfully reinforced by our keynote speakers from Nestlé, Givaudan and Bacardi and I congratulate them on their actions.”

AIM-PROGRESS is a forum of consumer goods manufacturers and suppliers whose mission is to enable and promote responsible sourcing practices and sustainable production systems. It is a global initiative supported by AIM, the European Brands Association, in Europe and the Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA) in North America. AIM-PROGRESS is open to any manufacturer or supplier who meets the membership criteria. There are currently 36 member organizations.

AIM-PROGRESS holds three membership meetings a year, as well as a series of supplier events which are open to non-members. Companies interested in joining AIM-PROGRESS are invited to attend one member meeting as a guest.

More information can be found by visiting the website at <http://www.aim-progress.com>.

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