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## Paramount Coffee attains Safe Quality Food certification

Paramount Coffee has earned Level 2 certification from the Safe Quality Food (SQF) Institute, establishing that the Michigan-based coffee roaster has effectively implemented rigorous food safety control systems.

"Paramount has long prided itself on its record of providing quality products to our customers and SQF 2 certification essentially serves as a stamp of approval verifying that we have stringent food safety programs in place," says **Steve Morris**, chief operating officer.

To attain the certification, Paramount completed a process that included a third-party audit of the company's food safety program, SQF seminars and training courses in personnel practices, plant maintenance and cleanliness.

The Safe Quality Food Institute's mission is, "to deliver consistent, globally recognized food safety and quality certification programs based on sound scientific principles, consistently applied across all industry sectors and valued by all stakeholders."

SQF is the only program recognized by the Global Food Safety Initiative that is headquartered outside of Europe.

"As our company continues to expand throughout the country, our SQF certification will assure customers that Paramount is a conscientious, reliable supplier with a strong and credible food safety management system."

Paramount recently expanded its operations. The company moved distribution and shipping operations to a separate building north of its Lansing headquarters and expanded manufacturing operations with the acquisition of property adjacent to its downtown operations.

Paramount's growth has been fueled by a successful strategy of increasing its presence regionally, nationally and directly to consumers on the Internet. One of the Midwest's largest roasters, Paramount is in its 80<sup>th</sup> year of roasting coffee for private label, retail and direct-to-consumer markets.