



DuPont Pioneer innovationLEADER of the Year Award Nomination

Nominee: Dr. Chris Nelson, President and CEO, Kemin

Kemin Overview:

For over half a century, Kemin has applied science to improve quality of life. Each day 3.4 billion people are impacted by Kemin products that improve the quality, safety and efficacy of food, feed and health-related products all over the world. The Des Moines-based nutritional ingredient company provides product solutions, options and more than 500 ingredients to customers in more than 120 countries.

With a vision of touching half of the world's population by 2018, Kemin works to find scientific solutions to improve health, feed a growing population, protect the world's resources and help those in need. Kemin is dedicated to touching and improving lives around the world. The company employs more than 140 Ph.D. staff members and holds over 200 patents. Kemin operates manufacturing facilities on six continents, and has more than 45 offices worldwide.

Established in Des Moines in 1961 by R.W. and Mary Nelson, the company was initially formed to serve customers in the agriculture industry who were interested in improving the quality of their feed. The founders began by serving the animal feed market with ingredients such as antioxidants, flavors and mold inhibitors. Today, Kemin remains a privately owned company with more than 2,000 global employees, with over \$700 million in net sales and will open a new multi-million dollar global headquarters in Des Moines in 2017.

Community Impact:

Dr. Nelson has continued - and cultivated - the legacy of his parents and Kemin founders, R.W. and Mary Nelson, who created a strong sense of responsibility to the global community. Dr. Nelson began his career with Kemin in 1980 as Director of Research and Development and has served as President and CEO since 1993. Under his leadership, the company has more than quadrupled in size and vastly grown its global footprint.

With a dedication to servant leadership, Dr. Nelson persistently looks for ways to better serve communities both locally and globally, in central Iowa and beyond. In 2013, Dr. Nelson was named one of the top 100 CEO Leaders in STEM. He currently serves as Co-Chair of the Iowa STEM Advisory Council. For the past three years, Kemin has sponsored the I.O.W.A. STEM Teacher Award. The award recognizes a full-time, licensed K-12 teacher from each of the six STEM regions across the state for their passion in motivating their students to develop a lasting

interest in STEM, both in and out of the classroom. The six teachers each receive an award of \$1,500 with an additional \$1,500 for their classroom.

In the Des Moines community, Dr. Nelson serves on various boards including the Des Moines Symphony and the Des Moines Community Foundation. His strong passion for science education is evident with his board position for the Science Center of Iowa, where he helped lead a successful development effort for construction of the \$62 million interactive learning center.

Both locally and globally, Kemin focuses on housing needs and disaster relief. Locally, Dr. Nelson is a board member for Habitat for Humanity. Globally, this December, more than 40 worldwide Kemin employees traveled to Nepal for a week to work on five home projects. A Kemin employee based in Nepal was impacted by the 2015 earthquake, which created awareness for the company to become involved in the special project. For the Nepal project, employees raised \$40,000 that was then matched by Kemin, resulting in a donation of over \$80,000.

As a leader in creating food technology solutions by seeking methods to extend the shelf life of food to make it safer and last longer, Kemin partners with The World Food Programme and The World Food Prize to utilize its resources to alleviate hunger around the world. Dr. Nelson is very active in the programs, and participates in global meetings and events.

Kemin Innovations:

Using applied science to improve quality of life, Kemin focuses on investing in research, people and understanding their customers. The company believes every part of the world's food chain should be accountable. By embracing the exploration of new areas to find unique solutions for changing needs, Kemin works with an eye on the future, developing scientific solutions today that will benefit their partners tomorrow.

With approximately 200 patents and more than 500 ingredients serving customers in more than 120 countries, Kemin has a broad-range of innovative and groundbreaking products and solutions. Below is a sample of Kemin's innovative technologies for various industries:

FloraGLO® Lutein: Recently celebrating its 20th anniversary on the market, FloraGLO is most recommended by eye doctors and is the only lutein product clinically proven safe in infant nutrition. With the sharp rise in digital device usage, the harmful side effects of blue light have also increased. FloraGLO is the only lutein brand supported by a patent to show that it helps protect eyes from harmful blue light. Blue light is emitted by almost every source of light, including LED bulbs and all digital devices. As digital device usage continues to increase, FloraGLO customers are able to stay ahead of the blue light trend by offering consumers the eye protection they need.

Naturox™: For decades, Kemin has worked with many of the world's leading pet food manufacturers, renderers and ingredient suppliers to develop innovative solutions that meet evolving consumer expectations. Pet ownership and companionship is experiencing increased popularity throughout the world, with extremely sharp increases in emerging markets. The gap between human and pet food is narrowing – the food that owners feed their pets is comparable in

quality to what they feed themselves. One product that meets the needs of this important and growing trend is Naturox, the leading global natural antioxidant for pet foods. Kemin continues to produce a range of products – including Naturox – that enhance freshness, stabilization, food safety, palatability, nutrition and health for the pets people love.

GT-FORT™: Oxidation is a global concern in food production. In 2016, Kemin launched GT-FORT, a truly novel oil-soluble green tea, serving as an effective alternative to current methods to address local needs for “clear labels”, a concept of clean eating. GT-FORT is a new addition to Kemin’s line of proprietary plant extracts and synergistic blends. Kemin specializes in providing ingredients that contribute to keeping food products safe, appealing and of the highest quality.

For questions or media inquiries regarding this nomination:

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