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**For Immediate Release**

## **Westfalia Technologies to Install Automated Storage and Retrieval and Warehouse Management Systems at New Organic Valley Distribution Center**

**YORK, Pa., June 16, 2006** – CROPP Cooperative/Organic Valley Family of Farms, America's largest cooperative of organic farmers, has selected Westfalia Technologies, a leading provider of material handling and logistic solutions, to supply an automated storage retrieval system (ASRS) and warehouse management system (WMS) in a new 80,000-square foot distribution center that has broken ground in Cashton, Wis.

The future Organic Valley facility, which is scheduled to open in Spring/Summer 2007, will handle fluid milk, meat, eggs, produce and various dairy products. The ASRS will store a majority of Organic Valley's products that require cooling (35-40 degrees F) or freezing (- 10 degrees F). Products that have other specific temperature requirements, such as produce, will be stored in a conventional storage area located adjacent to the ASRS. The entire facility will be controlled by Westfalia's WMS modular management software, *Savanna*.NET.

The storage system, a rack supported structure that supports the building's roof and walls, will consist of three storage retrieval machines with one unit servicing the freezer and two servicing the cooler. The AS/RS will measure 80 feet tall and will have the capacity to collectively store 12,000 loads of Organic Valley products.

*Savanna*.NET will control the automated and conventional areas, including internal system operations, operator transactions and all shipping and receiving functions. The system allows for pre-picking and temporary buffering of orders in the ASRS until needed, in addition to controlling and merging product orders from storage and picking areas to shipping. Furthermore, *Savanna*.NET is able to stage products on the conveyor system prior to truck arrival for quick loading and turn-around.

The new distribution center is being constructed to gain environmental and operational efficiencies made possible by housing distribution under one roof, rather than Organic Valley's current multiple locations.

According to Organic Valley's chief operating officer Louise Hemstead, the ASRS offers environmental and operational efficiencies. "The ASRS will allow this facility to have smaller footprint than typical warehouses," said Hemstead. "We want to use as few land resources as possible. We also expect the system will enhance our inventory management and virtually eliminate product loss due to expiration dates."

The ASRS allows for improved employee working conditions. The building can be kept at more moderate temperatures, and safety is improved since employees are not moving heavy loads overhead as they would in conventional warehouses.

### **About Westfalia Technologies**

*Where Innovation Meets Reliability*<sup>SM</sup>

Located in York, Pa., Westfalia Technologies ([www.westfaliausa.com](http://www.westfaliausa.com)) has been a leader in providing material handling and packaging systems to support customer distribution and storage needs for 35 years. Westfalia's products include automated warehousing and conveyor systems, conventional pallet flow and order selection systems, warehouse management systems, conventional and robotic palletizing systems, stainless steel case packing systems with associated conveying, stacking and handling equipment, and automated car parking systems.

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