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**ACX Pacific
Northwest, Inc.**

ACX Remains the Leading U.S. Exporter of Hay

Bakersfield, CA, June 3, 2012: For the third straight year ACX Pacific Northwest, Inc. is the leading U.S. exporter of alfalfa and grass hay according to the Journal of Commerce (JOC). ACX moved up a notch in the animal feed category as the second largest behind grain shipper DeLong. The JOC listed ACX as the 23rd largest exporter in the U.S. overall.

Among hay exporters, ACX is a clear leader with 52,400 TEU's (Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units) exported in 2012—this represents almost 700,000 tons of long fiber forage. This number excludes sales by ACX to companies who export hay under other names.

Exports of U.S. hay continue to grow each year. According to the Department of Commerce, 2008 hay exports totaled approximately 2.5 million tons. By the end of 2012 the world demand for U.S. hay increased to over 3.7 million tons. By all appearances, 2013 is on track to reach or exceed those levels.

Most of the hay exported by ACX goes to Asia and Middle East markets. Chief Marketing Officer, Mike Gombos stated, "When ACX started 35 years ago we shipped our hay products primarily to Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan for dairy and beef cow markets. Today we are also shipping to China and the Middle East, not just for dairy and beef, but to feed goats, camels, and sheep."

Expansion has played a huge role in recent years in helping ACX increase exports to Asia and the Middle East. They were the first hay exporter to open a major hay processing facility just outside the Port of Los Angeles. They worked closely with port and government officials to pass a bill in the State of California to extend the overweight container corridor to include their facility. This resulted in ACX's ability to maximize container weights and increase value to their customers.

ACX also opened a new facility in the Port of Stockton, CA and began exporting large volumes of hay through the Port of Oakland. Gombos stated, "We located our facility at the Port of Stockton in anticipation of their new barge service to the Port of Oakland on the Marine 580." The Marine 580 project, like the overweight container corridor, will allow the export of heavy containers by using a barge service operated by the Port of Stockton to transport containers to the Port of Oakland.

ACX recently announced the opening of a hay processing facility in Goldsboro, North Carolina. This will be the first major hay export operation on the east coast of the U.S. ACX will purchase Bermuda grass from area growers, process the grass into large square sleeve bales, and export the product to overseas markets through the Port of Virginia. "Our North Carolina facility along with our own farming operations takes pressure off the west coast hay markets," Gombos said.

Continuous facility expansions by ACX along with innovative internet applications that allow growers to keep track of their contracts and shipments to ACX (STACX) and that allow customers to

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keep track of their bookings with ACX (LogistACX) have resulted in increased opportunities, jobs, exports, and commerce in general. This led to ACX being awarded the Presidential “E” Award for Exports last year at a White House ceremony.

Gombos stated, “We are humbled daily by the unfailing support of our suppliers, customers, partners, and, most of all, our dedicated employees. We have been called to be part of a global chain of supply that ultimately helps feed the world. Like we say in our slogan, we plan to be here for generations to come.”

Please visit the ACX website at www.acxpacific.com for more information.

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