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Media Contact:

Lorraine Burke
Arico Natural Foods
Mobile: (503) 547-5691
Office: (617) 418-5268
lorraine@aricofoods.com

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Founder Biographies

Angela Ichwan **Co-Founder**

Born on the island of Java in Southeast Asia, Angela was raised by parents who taught her the principles of fairness, integrity, frugality and industry. Growing up in a poor country riddled with corruption and racial discrimination, she learned that obtaining an education would put her on the path toward a better future.

At age 18, Angela left her home and family for America, where she would make her dreams come true. With limited funds, she studied Food Science, earning her undergraduate degree from the University of California at Davis in just three years. She went on to complete a Master's Degree in food science and technology at Cornell University and a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Now Angela is utilizing her eight years experience as Global Food Developer at Heinz and Kellogg and her service as Chief Operating Officer at Market Matters, Inc., a non-profit organization, to bring Arico Natural Foods to life.

Angela's inspiration for Arico comes from her young niece Ella, who lives a gluten- and dairy-free life. Arico is dedicated to providing delicious and healthy snacks that are safe for Ella and other friends with special dietary needs.

Hermanto Hidajat **Co-Founder**

Also born on the island of Java in Southeast Asia, Hermanto moved to California under his own volition when he was 12. Even without the guidance of early mentors, Hermanto was driven at a young age to become successful and use his passion and enthusiasm to better the world.

That drive took Hermanto from the halls of Cornell University – where he earned Undergraduate and Graduate degrees in Operation Research and Industrial Engineering – to jobs in Indonesia, Belgium, Singapore, the UK, Japan, Switzerland and the U.S.

As his career took him from continent to continent, Hermanto never lost sight of his ultimate goal to make a difference in the world. Whether backpacking through Africa or overseeing operations in 12 countries for Federal Express, he was always on the lookout for ways to translate his passion for helping others into a future career.

Having spent years traveling and learning about the world, Hermanto is committed to his newest adventure: Becoming an entrepreneur who is not only successful at business, but successful at applying all his worldly knowledge to help others embrace "Mindful Snacking."