

COMPANY NEWS

research and development at Xango. "These preliminary findings add further context to the published xanthone measurement study. Ongoing research shows that artificially inflating or manipulating a product with xanthone extracts may not add any value. There are many other phytochemicals found in the fruit that have beneficial effects that are lost in extraction or jeopardized when the natural balance of the fruit is manipulated."

Ross Describes Food Mixing Technology on Web

HAUPPAUGE, NY—A new Web site developed by Charles Ross & Son Co. provides extensive information about the company's complete line of food

industry equipment. The site, located at www.foodmixers.com, offers details about ribbon and vertical blenders; multishaft, high-shear, and paste mixers; vessels; and controls. The site also includes photos of equipment, technical articles, and a quote request form.

Wilke Selected to Distribute Nebraska Cultures Probiotics

WALNUT CREEK, CA—Nebraska Cultures Inc. retained Wilke Resources (Lenexa, KS) as the exclusive U.S. sales agent for its Dr. Shahani's brand of probiotic materials.

"They understand the science and the rationale behind our probiotic formula and where it fits into the nutrition and food fortification markets,"

Nebraska Cultures media director Robbin Shahani said on July 2.

Nebraska Cultures director of operations Michael Shahani said his father, the company's founder, was very passionate about probiotics. "Wilke is just as passionate about presenting manufacturers, researchers, and formulators in the industry with the very best in raw materials, which includes the unique and effective Dr. Shahani's line of probiotics," he said. "They're on the same wavelength, so nothing will be lost in translation when it comes to customer service and product knowledge."

Robinson Pharma Reaches Employee Milestone

SANTA ANA, CA—Robinson Pharma Inc. (RPI) now has more than 400 employees, the company announced in July. According to RPI president and founder Tuong Nguyen, the company

recently began running 20 production lines 24 hours per day, necessitating the increase in staff.

"Growth in our core business of soft-gel encapsulation has created demand that RPI is well positioned to meet," Nguyen said on July 5. "Last year, we opened our Phase II production facility—the first 100%-continuous dry soft-gel operation in the United States. After this initial success with continuous drying technology, we have converted the balance of the plant to this more efficient and faster production method."

"The market for soft gelatin capsules has grown rapidly over the past three years, primarily due to the expansion in consumer demand for omega-3 fatty acids and enhanced-absorption CoQ10," explained vice president of marketing Kenn Israel. "Future growth will be driven by these product segments as well as enhanced customer service and a keen focus on CGMP-compliant manufacturing." ♦