



MGPI President and CEO Tim Newkirk Selected Among Elite Group of Regional Business and Community Leaders by Ingram's Magazine



ATCHISON, Kan., April 18, 2008—Tim Newkirk, president and chief executive officer of MGP Ingredients, Inc. (MGPI), has been selected by Ingram's Magazine, Kansas City, Mo., as a member of the publication's 2008 Class of 40 Under Forty honorees. Ingram's 40 Under Forty program was established in 1998 and is recognized among the more respected and prestigious honors in the greater Kansas City area. Honorees represent accomplished business and community leaders under 40 years of age and are selected from nominees within a multi-county region of northeast Kansas and northwest Missouri. This year's class of honorees is featured in Ingram's April issue.

"On behalf of our board of directors and entire staff, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate Tim on the achievement of this very special recognition," said Ladd Seaberg, MGPI board chairman. "We are grateful to Ingram's for acknowledging Tim's outstanding qualities and talents as a dynamic business leader, as well as his active involvement in and commitment to progressive community and civic initiatives."

Newkirk, 39, has served as president of MGP Ingredients since October, 2006, and as chief executive officer since March 5 of this year, succeeding Seaberg in both of these capacities. He had previously served as chief operating officer of the company since March, 2006.

Newkirk began his career with MGPI in 1991, serving initially as a distillery shift manager and later as a process engineer, project engineer and quality control manager at the company's Atchison plant. He was promoted to manager of the company's Pekin, Ill., plant in 1997.

In the spring of 2000, Newkirk accepted the position of vice president of operations for the former High Plains Corporation, an ethanol production company located in Wichita, Kan. He became vice president of global operations for Abengoa Bioenergy S.L. following that company's acquisition of High Plains in January, 2002. He was promoted to chief operating officer of Abengoa Bioenergy Corporation in August, 2003 and held that position until his return to MGP Ingredients as director of operations in May, 2005.

"I feel deeply honored to receive this recognition from Ingram's," Newkirk said. "There are many highly accomplished individuals in this group of 40 Under Forty honorees, and I am both grateful and humbled to be included among them. My selection has come as a complete surprise to me, and would not have been possible without the confidence and support of MGPI's board and employees, which has allowed me to reach the position I hold at this outstanding company."

Newkirk is vice president of the U.S.D. 409 Board of Education in Atchison; a member of the Board of Directors of the Atchison Community Educational Foundation; and a member of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Atchison.

A native of Pittsburg, Kansas, Newkirk spent most of his youth in Atchison and graduated from Atchison High School in 1986. He received a bachelor of science degree in engineering management from the University of Missouri-Rolla in 1991 and earned a master's degree in business administration at the Olin School of Business at Washington University, St. Louis, in February, 2006.

About MGP Ingredients

In business since 1941, MGP Ingredients is an innovative pioneer in the development and production of natural grain-based products, including specialty and commodity proteins and starches, and food grade and fuel grade alcohol. The company operates facilities in Atchison, Kansas City and Onaga, Kan., and Pekin, Ill.