



Irrigator Friday 23/10/2015

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Section: General News

Region: Leeton NSW Circulation: 1,878

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Brief: #NSWPAROTH

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## Opening a boon for

ANOTHER significant development and partnership has been opened in Leeton shire, attracting dignitaries from across the country and overseas this week.

On Monday the official launch of United World Enterprises (UWE) was held at the Western Riverina Intermodal Freight Terminal (WRIFT) site at Wumbulgal, located 25 kilometres west of Leeton

Dignitaries such as Minister for Trade, Tourism and Major Events Stuart Ayres, managing director UWE Jimmy Liu, Bright Food Group president Ma Yonjian Vice, Member for Wagga Daryl Maquire and former NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell were all in attendance.

About 120 people were also on hand to celebrate the opening of this new industry to NSW.

Two charter planes flew into Griffith airport with investors and delegates from Bright Food Group and Shanghai Dairy Group from China for the event.

UWE is a joint venture between Bright Foods, which is a subsidiary company Shanghai Dairy group).

UWE is a leading exporter of agricultural commodities to the Asia Pacific region and China.

The UWE oaten hay facility, which was opened on Monday, is the first of its kind in NSW.

It is is a new direction for UWE and Shanghai Dairy Group, who are looking to take control of their supply chain from the clean and green oaten hay in the MIA and Riverina regions.

Leeton Shire Council general manager Jackie Kruger was at the opening and praised the hard work of all of those involved.

"The facility will employ up to 45 staff at full capacity and produce up to 50,000 tonnes of oaten hay for the export market in its first year for the dairy market in China," she said.

"Bright Food Group and UWE hope to double export capacity by 2017 to 100,000 tonnes a year.

"The UWE facility will provide a new market for local primary producers in the oaten hay market and potentially future development with Bright Food Group in the region.

"This is an absolute boon for Leeton to have Bright Food group and UWE invest up to \$6 million in the region.

"There are already plans for expansion on the site."

The WRIFT itself was formally opened in June.

It is the newest and largest freight logistics hub for the western Riverina region.

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**OPEN FOR BUSINESS:** The official opening for United World Enterprises was held on Monday and was attended by former NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell (middle).