



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **AUSTRALIS HOLDINGS EXPANDS VIETNAM OPERATIONS** ***Purchases Marine Farms' Vietnam Operations***

**Turners Falls, MA (October 3, 2016)** [Australis Aquaculture](#), the world's leading producer of barramundi today announced that it has completed the acquisition of Marine Farms' operations in central Vietnam from Friendmall, Ltd, a Cyprus company controlled by Jerzy Malek, the founder and former CEO of Morpol, Inc. Terms of the acquisition were not disclosed.

Australis Aquaculture, headquartered in Turners Falls, Massachusetts, operates two aquaculture farms, a land-based farm in Massachusetts and an off-shore marine farm in Central Vietnam. Both farms produce product that carry Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch® "Best Choice" rating for sustainability.

Josh Goldman, Australis' CEO, commented "Australis has been operating in Vietnam since 2007 and we have found it to be an excellent location to develop our marine production base. The Marine Farms acquisition substantially increases the number of farm sites and gives us the ability to efficiently scale our operations in central Vietnam for the foreseeable future. We are thrilled to consolidate production in a pristine location that is far from the industrial and human impacts found in many other locations in Asia. We will continue to focus on growing our production of the finest quality barramundi while meeting the highest standards for sustainability as we work to make barramundi the next major aquaculture species."

Australis' commitment to responsible aquaculture has been recognized by top conservation and eco-certification organizations. In 2011, the Company's Vietnam-raised barramundi set the precedent of being the first marine-farmed fin fish to earn the Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch® "Best Choice" rating. Australis also has

received Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) 3-star and Global G.A.P. certifications, and is compliant with Whole Foods' seafood quality standards.

### **About Australis Aquaculture**

Australis Aquaculture is an award-winning provider of responsibly raised sustainable seafood and a leader in climate-smart ocean farming. With a company-wide mission to provide delicious and healthy fish in every home, Australis has spearheaded the introduction of barramundi as a key culinary trend in North America and now offers a full line of barramundi products under the Australis and Clean Harvest brands and through private label partnerships. The company operates two barramundi farms and sells its products to leading retailers and foodservice companies in North America, Australia, Asia and Europe. For more information, visit [thebetterfish.com](http://thebetterfish.com).

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