MINNEAPOLIS

The U.S. Upper Midwest market size for seafood is estimated at over \$800 million US. This represents a higher than expected rate of consumption due to highly innovative merchandising efforts at the retail level. U.S. national organizations (F.M.I., N.S.M.I.) indicate this market is 2-3 years ahead of the rest of the US in marketing, inspection, quality control, transportation, merchandising, presentation and advertising. Currently, the market division is: 60 percent of fish and seafood is sold in retail stores; and 40 percent in the restaurant/foodservice trade. The major growth potential is in the retail sector, with future large increases possible if there are innovations in packaging, quality control and product formulation (eg. boneless fillets, further processing) to give the customer a more appealing product. Current sales at the retail level are approximately 50 percent frozen and 50 percent fresh.

The domestic fishery consists mainly of walleye (200,000 lbs of the 300,000 lbs sold in the Minneapolis/St. Paul market last year were domestic in source). There is continuous strong demand for walleye, and demands that more be made available from Canadian sources. There are also small quantities of farmed freshwater salmon and trout being raised locally. The most popular species are as follows: salmon (steaks more than fillets), cod fillets, walleye fillets, orange roughy, pollock, catfish, swordfish, shark, shrimp, clams, scallops and lobster.

MAJOR UPPER MIDWEST U.S. SEAFOOD IMPORTERS

AMERICAN FISH AND SEAFOOD COMPANY 5501 Opportunity Court, Minnetonka, Minnesota 55343 Contact: Larry Bialick/Larry Braufman Tel:(612) 935-3474 Products: seafood

BELLBOY MEAT CORPORATION 2220 Florida Avenue South, St. Louis Park, Minnesota 55426 Contact: Brad Eisenberg Tel:(612) 544-7791 Products: seafood

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Canadian Consulate General Suite 900, 701 Fourth Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415-1899 Tel:(612) 333-4641 Telex: 29-0229 Fax:(612) 332-4061 Ms. Margaret L. Mearns Commercial Officer COASTAL SEAFOODS
2330 Minnehaha Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404
Contact: Tim Lauer/Suzanne Weinstein
Tel:(612) 724-5911
Products: seafood

MINN-CON MARKETING CORPORATION P.O. Box 26068, St. Louis Park, Minnesota 55426 Contact: Dave Conner Tel:(612) 922-0234 Products: seafood

PYA MONARCH 9605 54th Avenue North, Plymouth, Minnesota 55442 Tel:(612) 559-9494 Products: seafood

WJF INTERNATIONAL
742 Decatur Avenue North,
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55427
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Products: seafood