

# Ready Roast Nut Company Recognized by DFA as Plant of the Year



Tom Finn and Ann Billek of Ready Roast Nut Company accepted the "Plant of the Year" award from Sam Keiper, President of DFA of California.

On July 25, 2013 DFA of California recognized the Ready Roast Nut Company facility in Madera, California as the "Plant of the Year."

This award is based on one or all of the following criteria, (1.) most improved, (2) GFSI Certified, and (3) the top scoring facility during unannounced audits. According to DFA, "This facility was recognized for going above and beyond in implementing good food safety practices, setting guidelines throughout the

company, and acting as an exemplifying role model for others to follow. Ready Roast Nut Company was well deserving of the 2012/2013 Plant of the Year."

In 2013 the Ready Roast Nut facility also achieved Level 3 SFQ Certification. The Safe Quality Food (SQF) Program is recognized by retailers and foodservice providers worldwide who require a food safety management system. Level 3 is a comprehensive implementation of food safety/HACCP and includes an assessment of the quality management systems that is not required in Level 2.



Ready Roast Nut Company was established in 2006. They produce large volumes of oil and dry roasted nuts for the dairy and other food processing industries. Their original processing facility was located in Hughson, CA. In 2007 they acquired Madera Quality Nut and their most recent facility in Madera was

completed in 2012.

This new facility, which is partially powered by solar energy, allows Ready Roast to significantly increase their processing volumes and capacities. It was designed to maintain separation of raw products from finished products with a series of sanitation stations between incoming and outgoing products and materials. They have expanded their product line to include nut butter processing and increased their product packaging lines to include new pack styles such as stand up re-sealable pouches, plastic jars and a variety of other packaging options.