

AdvancePierre Foods Announces New CEO

Written by Australian Business

CINCINNATI--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--Cincinnati-based AdvancePierre Foods, Inc. today announced the appointment of John N. Simons, Jr. as President and Chief Executive Officer and member of the Board of Directors. Mr. Simons brings over 20 years of food, agribusiness and consumer products experience to his new role.

“John’s long track record of fostering high-performing, customer-focused and innovative cultures, through building world-class organizational capabilities, and driving growth across a number of enterprises make him the right leader for AdvancePierre Foods at this point in its evolution,” said Dean Hollis, Chairman of the Board. “In his new role as President and Chief Executive Officer, John will be responsible for leading AdvancePierre in the next phase of its journey to become the premier value-added protein and sandwich producer in the marketplace.”

“I am pleased and honored to lead the great team at AdvancePierre at this time of significant opportunity,” said Simons. “I am excited to build on the platform established during the last several years, and to work side by side with our team to serve our customers and win in the marketplace.”

Simons, 52, has led businesses with revenues ranging from \$30 million to \$10 billion. He served as President and CEO of Swift & Company, Inc., a \$10 billion global red meats processing company. Simons was President and COO of several divisions of Conagra Foods, Inc. and earlier in his career, he spent nearly a decade in executive positions at Cargill, Inc. Most recently, he founded Fir Hill Ventures, advising beef industry producers on developing profitable international growth strategies.

Mr. Simons earned bachelors’ degrees in Economics and Political Science from Stanford University, as well as a Master of Business Administration degree from the Harvard Business School. He was also a member of the 1980 United States Olympic Swim Team.

About AdvancePierre Foods

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AdvancePierre Foods, Inc. is nationally recognized manufacturer and marketer of value-added proteins and sandwich products to a wide variety of distribution outlets including foodservice, school, retail, club, vending and convenience store markets. With revenues of over \$1.5 billion, AdvancePierre offers a variety of fully-cooked and raw proteins, including beef, chicken and pork products, Philly-style steak, stuffed chicken, bakery products and a full line of packaged sandwiches.