

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Sturm Foods' Safety Program Recognized as High Quality, Consistent**

MANAWA, Wis. – For the ninth consecutive year, Sturm Foods has received the highest, “superior” rating from the American Institute of Baking (AIB), a third-party, globally-recognized food safety auditor. Sturm is annually evaluated by AIB on a voluntary basis to ensure the company is following best-in-class manufacturing practices.

AIB audits, aimed at achieving sustainable and consistent food safety standards, are comprehensive measurements of a company’s food quality and safety program, operational and personnel practices, and maintenance and cleaning effectiveness. Corporate records are also thoroughly analyzed to ensure the company is compliant with its own food quality and safety guidelines.

“Given the nature of the food industry today, we voluntarily participate in AIB audits annually to show our retailers and consumers that food safety and quality is a top priority,” says Duane Montague, vice president of operations for Sturm Foods.

AIB audits encompass a four-tiered rating system, with “superior” being the highest ranking, earning 900 plus points on a 1000-point scale. Since 2000, Sturm Foods has consistently received superior inspection marks from AIB.

“Sturm’s consistently high audit rankings are a result of the company’s comprehensive training, well-designed safety management systems, effective preventative maintenance and stringent quality standards says Montague, “but none of it would be possible without our employees who thoughtfully and thoroughly apply safe practices each and everyday.”

The American Institute of Baking is a not-for-profit corporation, founded by the North American wholesale and retail baking industries in 1919 as a technology transfer center for bakers and food processors.

**About Sturm Foods:**

In business for more than 100 years, Sturm Foods is a global manufacturer specializing in quickly bringing to market innovative, nutritious, “good-for-you” food products that help consumers to enjoy healthier lives. The company, headquartered in Manawa, Wis., produces healthful drink mixes and sticks, instant oatmeal and hot cereals, and a line of organic and natural foods. For more information, visit the Sturm Foods website at [www.sturmfoods.com](http://www.sturmfoods.com).

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