The Food Industry

The Netherlands has a good international reputation in the field of food safety and certification.

As part of its overall strategy to promote healthy eating and to keep healthcare costs down, the Dutch government emphasizes the production and consumption of healthy foods.

Innovation

Various aspects of food safety and certification are state-of-the-art in the Netherlands and the country has built up a global reputation in this area.

In addition, the logistics and distribution systems that support the Dutch food and stimulant industry are very well-developed.

- Dutch companies in the food and stimulant industry are among the best in Europe. The EU top 25 features 5 Dutch companies.

Export Opportunities

Most of the production for the Dutch market takes place in the Netherlands itself, but the food and stimulant industry also draws increasingly on international suppliers.

- International collaboration between supermarket corporations is already well under way and takes place on a large scale.

Import data on products in the food and stimulant industry reveal relatively high import levels of meat and meat products, dairy products, confectionery, cocoa and chocolate, margarine and animal and vegetable oils and fats and cattle feed.

- The Netherlands accounts for approximately 17% of the total intra-EU imports of foods and stimulants.

- The country has a 13% share of the total EU imports of foods and stimulants.

- The Netherlands has a 21% market share of the total EU market for meat and continues to be the main pork supplier to other EU countries.

The demand for new and exotic food is increasing on the Dutch market. Retailers in the Netherlands are more often looking to import these products.

Key Advantages

The Netherlands has capitalized on its strategic location to become a key player in the world economy:

- Test Market for Europe
  - Its size and manageability make the Netherlands an ideal test market for the EU.

- Internationally-Oriented
  - More than 60% of the Netherlands’ GDP is generated by foreign trade in goods and services.

- World Leader in a Variety of Industries
  - The Netherlands has a diversified economic base and offers business opportunities in a number of sectors.

- ‘Hub & Spokes’ in Europe
  - One-third of the EU population is within a 300-mile radius of Rotterdam, the world’s 3rd largest port.

Contact Us

Learn more about how we can help your company find opportunities and partners in the Netherlands.

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