NEWS RELEASE

US Foods Introduces Newest Food Fanatics™ Chef at Denver Food and Wine Festival

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Chef Scott McCurdy, a Denver-based chef known for his vast culinary knowledge and restaurant business expertise earned through positions at some of the country's finest hotels and resorts, will debut as the newest US Foods Food Fanatics Chef at the Denver Food and Wine Festival this weekend.

"Chef Scott's keen intuition on what it takes to thrive in a competitive culinary market and refined culinary skills make him the perfect person to take on the role of the Denver Food Fanatics Chef," said Marshall Warkentin, vice president of Marketing for US Foods. "In this new role, Chef Scott will take his collaboration and support for area chefs to the next level, helping them to reach and exceed their business goals. There's no question that he is an asset to Denver's unique culinary scene."

US Foods is the presenting sponsor for this year's Denver Food and Wine Festival, bringing together 40 of the area's leading chefs for a four-day celebration of premier food and beverage talent. On Saturday, September 7, Chef Scott will kick off the event's Grand Tasting at the Viking Culinary Chef Showcase. Throughout the day he will open the doors to the Food Fanatics Chef Lounge, an area designed to ensure the hardworking event chefs have a comfortable spot to take a break. Chef Scott will also serve as a judge for the Art of the Cocktail Party's tapas competition and attend numerous festival dinners and events to share his knowledge on the hottest food trends in Denver and ways restaurants can make sure their cuisine stands out from the rest.

In addition to showcasing his industry knowledge and culinary prowess at regional food events as a Food Fanatics Chef, Chef Scott will:

- Bring US Foods' new, innovative products directly to Denver restaurateurs

- Host workshops to help chefs and restaurateurs learn new business solutions
- Offer in-depth menu and recipe analysis for restaurateurs, and
- Consult with operators on improvements they can make to help their business succeed

“Denver is home to exceptional chefs who have trained all over the world, encouraging our local food scene to continually evolve and progress,” said Food Fanatics Chef Scott McCurdy. “Our chefs are always working together to perfect new techniques and push the local scene to the next level, and I’m honored to work with them through the Food Fanatics program.”

About Food Fanatics™ Chef Scott McCurdy

Chef Scott McCurdy built his unsurpassed passion for food by working in professional kitchens since he was 16 years old. After graduating at the top of his culinary school class, he began working for the prestigious El Encanto Hotel in Santa Barbara, CA where he regularly prepared meals for hotel regulars, Julia Child and Jacques Pepin. He has traveled extensively through France and developed his refined French culinary techniques through stints in various restaurants, patisseries, boulangeries, and charcuteries throughout the country. After settling in Colorado, Chef Scott spent his time preparing and hosting meals for Aspen’s food and wine crowd as the Executive Chef at the Aspen Meadows Hotel and Resort and the Rustique Bistro. Prior to joining US Foods and becoming a Food Fanatics Chef, Scott was the Executive Chef for the Snowmass Club where he further honed his culinary and business skills by directing and mentoring the culinary staff of three restaurants and a full service banquet department. He has hosted cooking classes, television demonstrations, master sommelier wine dinners and numerous high profile events. Following five great years at Snowmass, he joined US Foods where he is now a Food Fanatics Chef and culinary consultant sharing his love of food and inspiring business success with his customers. Collaborating with other chefs and restaurateurs is one of his strongest passions and he is constantly looking to inspire them to challenge themselves and push their cuisine to the next level.

ABOUT US FOODS

US Foods, Inc. is a large foodservice distributor serving chefs and foodservice operators across the country. Its customers include independent and multi-unit restaurants, healthcare and hospitality entities, government and educational institutions. The company employs approximately 25,000 people in 61 locations nationwide. US Foods is headquartered in Rosemont, Ill.

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