

General Mills, Danone, Campofrío, Vichy Catalán and Pascual at F4F – Expo Foodtech 2024 to present food industry strategies for growth

Decarbonization, energy efficiency, Artificial Intelligence, strategies to face the inflationary environment or the demand drop will be some of the topics of the CEO's debate

Food 4 Future - Expo Foodtech and Pick&Pack will bring together more than 450 experts from 16 to 18 April in Bilbao, Spain

Madrid, 23rd February, 2024 – From 16 to 18 April, Food 4 Future - Expo Foodtech 2024 and Pick&Pack for Food Industry, the two leading events dedicated to improving the competitiveness of the food industry that will be held jointly, will gather C-Level Executives of some of the most important companies in the food sector in Bilbao, Spain.

This year, CEOs from leading food companies such as Javier Dueñas (Campofrío), Óscar Vicente (Angulas Aguinaga), Pilar Damborenea (General Mills), Alberto Jiménez (Smileat), Roselyne Chane (Sanygran), Rodrigo Sánchez (Natur All), Patxi Arrtutia (Delicass) and Agustín del Canto (Okin), among others, will meet in Bilbao to address the challenges in terms of decarbonization of the industry, energy efficiency, or the application of Artificial Intelligence, as well as to share strategies to face the inflationary environment or the fall in demand.

<u>Food 4 Future World Summit</u> will also bring together senior executives from leading brands in the food industry, such as **Soledad Camacho (Danone)**, **Enrique Rodríguez (Vichy Catalán) and Guillermo Mena (Fruselva)**, who will discuss changing consumer preferences, consumer empowerment and the role of marketing in promoting sustainable, healthy and affordable choices. The conference will also explore adaptive strategies for brand positioning, considering factors such as cultural relevance, supply chain resilience and market penetration, and will provide insights on how to balance the strengths of local brands and established global brands.

On the other hand, sustainability will once again be one of the central topics of the Food 4 Future World Summit. Candela Aldao (Mahou San Miguel) and Pablo Mazo (Heineken), will present sustainable methods and practical examples in the field of supply, production and packaging. Besides, Carmen Gómez-Acebo (Coca-Cola Europacific Partners Iberia) and Amaia Aguirre (Ausolan), will provide their expertise in the field of 360° sustainability, while Mariví Sánchez (Nauterra -former Calvo Group-), will explore the strategies used by the industry to minimize waste, improve resource efficiency and promote recycling initiatives throughout the product life cycle.

Immersed in a constantly changing world, the challenges and trends facing the food industry and the supply chain -from the impact of technological innovation to the imperatives of sustainability or the disruption caused by global events- will also be discussed by Alejandro Gonzalez Navech (Pascual), Cristina Lecumberri (Congelados Navarra) or Eva Navascueces, (Alma Carraovejas). A meeting point where to find a collaborative environment that favors the exchange of best practices and innovative strategies.



In addition, the retail sector will play a leading role with Raimundo Castilla (Makro); Ainhoa Oyarbide (Eroski), Christopher Burleigh (Grupo Uvesco), and Carlos García (Grupo Dinosol). This session will analyze profitable retail models, the integration of digital technologies and the strategic selection of product varieties to meet the diverse demands of consumers.

Solutions for more sustainable packaging and more efficient logistics

Within the framework of Pick&Pack, which this year will be held in Bilbao simultaneously with F4F - Expo Foodtech, will take place the <u>National Congress of Packaging 4.0</u>, which will address issues such as mechanisms to measure the sustainability of packaging, its communication with the consumer, or the search for new materials, and the <u>European Logistics Summit 2024</u>, which will address another of the hottest debates in the sector such as the challenges posed by the impact of last-mile delivery and how we can improve traceability to reduce the carbon footprint.

Among the experts participating in both forums are Macarena Ruiz, eCommerce Manager at DIAGEO; Jorge García, CIO of Pack 2 Earth; Sofija Selkovnikova, CEO of Lukks Pack; José María Fernández, Director of Circular Economy at IHOBE; Miren Arantza, Managing Director of ELIKA; Juan Pablo Esquivel, Research Associate at IKERBASQUE; Juliet Bray, Accelerator Programme Manager at EIT Food; and Marc Monnin, Director General of the Spanish Plastics Centre (CEP), among many others.

About Food 4 Future – Expo Foodtech: F4F - Expo Foodtech (April 16-18, 2024, Bilbao, Spain) is the innovation event for professionals of the entire food industry value chain. For three days, F4F - Expo Foodtech will bring together, at the Bilbao Exhibition Centre (BEC), more than 8,000 food industry professionals and 250 exhibiting firms to present the latest solutions in foodtech, robotics and automation, processing and packaging machinery for the different segments of the food industry, as well as food safety and food science. In addition, it will host the Food 4 Future World Summit, the largest European congress in which to discover the latest trends, success stories and tools to transform the food and beverage industry from the hand of more than 450 international experts. F4F - Expo Foodtech is organized by NEBEXT and AZTI. This year, F4F - Expo Foodtech 2024 will be held simultaneously with Pick&Pack for Food Industry, the only event in Spain specializing in packaging and logistics solutions for the food industry.

About Pick&Pack for Food Industry (April 16-18, 2024, Bilbao, Spain): is an event organized by NEBEXT, a company specialized in professional events focused on innovation and technology transfer, such as HIP, Digital Enterprise Show, Rebuild, Tourism Innovation Summit or Advanced Factories. Pick&Pack is a boutique innovation event for industrial leaders and SMEs in the food industry looking for solutions in logistics, intralogistics and packaging. Two congresses will be held within the framework of the summit: the European Logistics Summit 2024, specialized in distribution; and the National Packaging 4.0 Congress, dedicated to packaging. Pick&Pack 2024 will be held simultaneously with Food 4 Future - Expo Foodtech, the international innovation event for the food and beverage industry.