NEWS RELEASE

Hormel Foods Names Joe O'Connor Group Vice President, Enterprise Performance

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AUSTIN, Minn., Oct. 22, 2026 /PRNewswire/ -- Hormel Foods Corporation (NYSE: HRL), a Fortune 500 global branded food company, today announced that Joe O'Connor has been named group vice president, enterprise performance.

In this role, O'Connor will lead the company's enterprise performance efforts, working across business units and functions to strengthen decision-making, improve planning processes and support long-term business performance.

"Through his leadership of Applegate and, more recently, our emerging brands business, Joe has demonstrated an ability to build strong teams, adapt to changing market conditions and deliver results," said John Ghingo, president and chief executive officer-elect, Hormel Foods. "His enterprise perspective, strategic mindset and proven leadership make him exceptionally well suited to lead enterprise performance and help drive our long-term success."

O'Connor most recently served as vice president, emerging brands. During his more than 20 years with Hormel Foods, he has held a variety of leadership roles and gained broad experience across sales, marketing, category management and general management.

O'Connor's appointment is effective Oct. 26, 2026.

About Joe O'Connor

O'Connor currently serves as vice president, emerging brands, where he oversees the company's Applegate and Columbus Craft Meats businesses.

O'Connor joined Hormel Foods in 2006 as a sales representative in Chicago and has held leadership positions of increasing responsibility throughout the organization. Following roles in category management, customer business management and sales leadership, he joined Applegate as vice president of sales and marketing in 2020. He was named assistant vice president, emerging brands, and president of Applegate in 2022 and assumed his current role in 2025.

Prior to joining Hormel Foods, he held positions with Snyder's of Hanover, Clemens Markets and Albert Organics.

O'Connor holds a bachelor's degree in food marketing from Saint Joseph's University.

About Hormel Foods

Hormel Foods Corporation, based in Austin, Minnesota, is a global branded food company with over $12 billion in annual revenue. Its brands include PLANTERS®, SKIPPY®, SPAM®, HORMEL® NATURAL CHOICE®, APPLEGATE®, WHOLLY®, HORMEL® BLACK LABEL®, COLUMBUS®, JENNIE-O® and more than 30 other beloved brands. The Company is a member of the S&P 500 Index and the S&P 500 Dividend Aristocrats, was named one of the best companies to work for by U.S. News & World Report and one of America's most responsible companies by Newsweek, was recognized by TIME magazine as one of the World's Best Companies and has received numerous other awards and accolades for its corporate responsibility and community service efforts. For more information, visit hormelfoods.com.

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