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## The St. Louis Mosaic Project Celebrates 500<sup>th</sup> Mosaic Ambassador and 1<sup>st</sup> Mosaic Ambassador Company: Monsanto

ST. LOUIS—June 16, 2015 The St. Louis Mosaic Project is proud to announce Mike Frank, Vice President,

**Global Commercial at Monsanto**, as its 500<sup>th</sup> Mosaic Ambassador and simultaneously name Monsanto as the first Mosaic Ambassador Company. Frank, a native of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, is responsible for Monsanto's global row crop operations and vegetable business. Over his 26-year career with the company, he has led manufacturing, supply chain and crop protection operations and has also held leadership roles for a variety of Monsanto businesses, including President, Monsanto China;



General Manager, Choice Genetics; and Head of U.S. Product Management.

As a Mosaic Ambassador, Frank will engage in collaborative community activities to promote a more internationally welcoming atmosphere in St. Louis. "I really value the work that the St. Louis Mosaic Project is doing to bolster prosperity for our region through immigration and innovation," Frank said. "Over my career with Monsanto, I've been fortunate to work with employees and customers around the world. In an increasingly complex and global environment, we need people with diverse experiences, coming from different backgrounds, cultures and generations, and we also need people with an ability to work effectively across those differences."

Monsanto, a global agriculture solutions company, is known for encouraging and maintaining an inclusive and diverse work environment, and the company has been honored repeatedly as a great workplace, most recently by <u>DiversityInc</u>. As the first Mosaic Ambassador Company, Monsanto already has strong ties with the St. Louis Mosaic Project. Melissa Harper, Vice President of Global Talent Acquisition/Chief Diversity Officer at Monsanto, sits on the Mosaic Project Steering Committee.

Monsanto has previously hosted Ambassador meetings with more than 100 Mosaic Ambassadors and international Monsanto executives. Monsanto currently draws upon the talents of employees from more than 35 countries around the globe and routinely hires professionals from outside of the U.S.

Monsanto joins the Mosaic Ambassador Company Program as a Gold Member, which means the company hires international students and experienced global talent, encourages associates to become Mosaic Ambassadors, shares Mosaic's welcome materials with newly arriving international employees, and has Monsanto spouses currently enrolled as volunteers at the Naheed Chapman New American Academy for refugee students.

Monsanto is just one of many companies Mosaic plans to attract as Ambassador Companies. Betsy Cohen, Executive Director of the St. Louis Mosaic Project shared that "Mosaic looks forward to hearing from other companies and organizations about their current actions and future plans to be welcoming to international talent."

Monsanto, the first Mosaic Ambassador Company and Frank, the 500<sup>th</sup> Mosaic Ambassador, will play vital roles in the Mosaic Project's mission to make the St. Louis region more economically and culturally successful. Ambassador Companies will attract talent. Frank's role as the 500<sup>th</sup> Mosaic Ambassador is equally important, as Ambassadors cultivate a welcoming atmosphere that retains the foreign talent attracted to our region.

## About the St. Louis Mosaic Project

The St. Louis Mosaic Project was launched in 2012 in response to an economic impact report, outlining St. Louis to be lagging in immigrant growth as well as highlighting the economic benefits of increasing its foreign-born population. The Mosaic Project is a regional initiative that is professionally managed by St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, World Trade Center St. Louis and a 22-member committee. Its goal is to transform St. Louis into the fastest growing major metropolitan area for immigration by 2020 and promote regional prosperity through immigration and innovation. Learn more at <u>www.stlmosaicproject.org</u>.

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