



QVD
15 LAKE BELLEVUE DR.
SUITE 109
BELLEVUE, WA 98005
T: 425 637 0090 F: 425 452 0600



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Linae Foster (425) 637-0090
lfoster@qvdseafood.com

CHEFS IN AMERICA GROUP AWARDS QVD PRESTIGIOUS GOLD MEDAL FOR “SUPERIOR-TASTING” SWAI AND BARRAMUNDI PRODUCTS

Bellevue, Wash – December 22, 2009 – QVD, the premier aquaculture expert specializing in Swai from Vietnam, earned Gold Medal honors for two of the company’s retail and foodservice seafood products in the American Masters of Taste judging panel, held recently in Northern California. QVD won top honors in both the *Pangasius* (Swai) and *Barramundi* fillets categories.

The *Chefs in America* competition, part of the Chefs in America Foundation (www.chefsinamerica.org) was created to recognize great American chefs as well as honor the efforts of quality producers from the North American marketplace. The judging for the prestigious competition was based on “triple blind” taste tests in Northern California by a panel of *Chefs Masters of Taste*.

Chefs in America founder Jesse Sartain said the judges were impressed by QVD’s commitment to producing superior products. Sartain, the Chef du Jury and Maitre du Gout with American Masters of Taste, said, “We commend the culinary commitment of the staff of QVD for the excellence and innovation of their product lines.” He added: “We applaud them.”

QVD products that received “Superior” ratings, and awarded the Gold Medal Award were *BasaVina Pearl Swai* Fillets; *BasaVina Pearl Swai* Loins; *BasaVina Pearl Swai* Rolls; and *Vina Blue Barramundi* Fillets.

The judging was a part of the ongoing World Taste Championships founded in 1989 with the Chefs in America Awards Foundation. For further information on the awards and judging program, contact the American Masters of Taste at (800) 728-4007 or www.superior-taste.org. For more information on QVD visit www.qvdseafood.com.

About QVD: QVD is the leading US distributor of *Pangasius* (Swai). QVD offers the consumer-branded *Pangasius* under the names *BasaVina Pearl*, *BasaVina Ruby* and *Vina Blue* in over 30 markets worldwide. A global leader in aquaculture practices and sustainable farming practices, QVD operates factories and farms in Vietnam and is the first *Pangasius* facility in the world to be included into the United States Department of Commerce (USDC) Seafood Inspection Program.

QVD is renowned for its production system, which ensures its fish is sustainably raised, all-natural and is fully traceable and transparent during its distribution. For more information about QVD and their family of products, please visit www.qvdseafood.com.

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