



**PRESS STATEMENT**  
**Del Monte Philippines, Inc.**  
**Manila, June 27, 2008**

This statement is being issued with regard to the recent finding of the National Disaster Coordinating Council on the cargo of Endosulfan pesticide that was loaded in the ill-fated vessel, Princess of the Stars. While this cargo is owned by Del Monte Philippines, Inc ( DMPI ), it was still enroute for delivery to Del Monte and was therefore outside its control at the time of the accident.

Endosulfan is a pesticide that has been used by DMPI for decades without a single untoward health incident. The Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority ( FPA ), the national agency responsible for regulating the use of fertilizers and agricultural chemicals, has specifically authorized its use by Del Monte.

The Endosulfan cargo originated from a supplier in Israel and it was packed and shipped in accordance with strict international shipping standards for cargoes of this type. In addition, Sulpicio Lines was fully apprised of the nature of the cargo as all documents were furnished to them including the material safety data sheet (MSDS) from the supplier.

DMPI continuously monitors the movement of delicate materials such as Endosulfan. Without the knowledge and consent of DMPI, Sulpicio Lines loaded the Endosulfan cargo in the M/V Princess of the Stars instead of the M/V Princess of the Paradise which was supposed to be the appointed vessel for this cargo. Upon learning that our cargo was loaded in the ill-fated M/V Princess of the Stars, we immediately informed the FPA. DMPI is in constant touch with the FPA and other government agencies to ensure that any and all action be taken to avoid and prevent any damage.

We want to assure the public that we in DMPI are responsible corporate citizens and we are just as concerned with the environment and are actively assisting the authorities in addressing this pressing situation.

DMPI is the leading consumer packaged fruits and vegetable company in the Philippines under the Del Monte brand, owns the largest and most integrated pineapple plantation in the world and is the leading exporter of processed pineapple products for nearly 80 years.

***Del Monte Philippines, Inc.***  
***Corporate Affairs and Legal Group***