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Aurora Cooperative and RANEK AG Announce New Partnership *Partnership to create a new division of Aurora Cooperative in South Dakota*

Aurora, Neb. – Aurora Cooperative, a leading independent cooperative with 80 locations in seven states, and RANEK AG, a progressive local agronomy supplier with two locations in South Dakota, are excited to announce a new partnership between the two existing companies. Aurora Cooperative and RANEK AG have combined its resources to provide high quality, competitive products and services to its farmer-owners who rely on them every day.

“Aurora Cooperative is a company on the leading edge of innovation,” said Justin Ranek, Area Manager of RANEK AG, a division of Aurora Cooperative. “What Aurora Cooperative brings to the table is commitment to not only understanding today’s problems but to provide profitable, forward-thinking solutions that will positively affect our growers’ profitability.”

Ranek goes on to say, “In today’s farming environment, customers are expecting us to help them with the security of their farms and being able to have access to high quality products and assets will continue to allow our growers to succeed in today’s technology driven, ever-changing ag environment. It’s about allowing our company and our growers to be in the best position when it comes to products and services. This partnership allows us to do both.”

RANEK AG employees are also excited to be a part of this new partnership. “The ability to have good employees ultimately allows our customers to obtain a high level of service,” Ranek added.

“We are truly pleased to be involved with RANEK AG in a new South Dakota agronomy division,” said Aurora Cooperative CEO Chris Vincent. “This great opportunity allows us to partner with the Ranek family and the progressive South Dakota farmer. Raneks’ are great South Dakotans, and we are looking forward to working with them and their customers.”

About RANEK AG – Even though he didn't grow up farming, Jesse Ranek's passion for agriculture is unmistakable. His passion and love for agriculture was fueled by being raised in a farming community and being surrounded by his friends who farmed. After college and a football career, Jesse was busy operating a sports training facility, working construction and selling seed in a partnership with his father when he decided to expand his agriculture business.

Jesse and his cousin, Justin Ranek, went into business together forming RANEK AG, which operates facilities in Tyndall and Mitchell, South Dakota. RANEK AG is a full service agronomy center providing farmers and ranchers with all their seed, chemical, dry and liquid fertilizer, dry and liquid application, strip-tillage, precision ag and soil sampling needs. To learn more about RANEK AG visit their website at www.ranekag.com.

About Aurora Cooperative – The Aurora Cooperative is a resource for better information, better products and services and better decision making all year long. With The Aurora Cooperative, farmer-owners have a trusted partner who looks well beyond the horizon. They are putting owners' equity to work – every day – by anticipating what their farmer-owners will need tomorrow and creating what's next for their farm.

A portfolio of innovation that supports every aspect of a farmer-owners' operation. And an unwavering commitment to their success – however they measure it. Any farmer-owner of The Aurora Cooperative can rest assured that every investment the cooperative makes is focused on their farm, their cooperative, their future. To learn more about The Aurora Cooperative, visit their website at www.auroracoop.com.