



Nature's International Certification Services

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November 25, 2019

Greetings from NICS!

As many may remember, on March 14, 2017, we lost our leader and dearest member of the NICS family, our founder, Dave Engel. He was an entrepreneur for other entrepreneurs in the organic industry. Dave was a founding father of many certification agencies, organic related programs, and a farmer who supported the organic movement, just like many of you.

Upon Dave's passing, his wife, Dr. Marta W. Engel, DVM, assumed control of NICS. She was able to keep NICS moving forward so we could be a part of your organic lives. She is soon to be 70, and has chosen to pass NICS to another family-owned organization.

The choice which Marta made was to hand NICS over to ECOCERT Group. "Ecocert is an ecologically minded company whose mission is a lot like NICS's," stated Marta. She chose Ecocert to continue Dave's legacy, and Ecocert will continue to be a strong support system for the organic industry with Dave's values in mind.

We here at NICS want to let all of our clients know that we are NICS and will remain NICS for the foreseeable future. We have a great staff, as many of you have come to know, not only on a professional level, but also on a personal level. We want to know about your successes and your concerns, so we can provide a healthy way forward in the organic world.

As Dave was a pioneer in the organic industry in the United States, William Vidal, founder of Ecocert, is a pioneer in the organic industry in France. Like Dave, William is a farmer and was active in playing a significant role in creating the organic standards for the European Union in the 1980s. He founded Ecocert in 1991 near Toulouse, France, where the headquarters for the international certification organization is located. William is a strong advocate for the environment and the social responsibilities of people to reduce the human impact on our world. "We are proud to have become, on the strength of our convictions, a major player in organic farming. All of our services are aimed at promoting and disseminating more environmentally and socially responsible practices through the world," said William.

The gain of NICS by Ecocert is important to all of us. NICS is a leader in organic certification and we wouldn't be a leader without all of you, our organic farmers and processors. Ecocert is also a leader in the organic industry, both from a domestic and international standpoint. Together NICS and Ecocert are able to provide more support in your organic endeavors and beyond.

Please feel free to call us should you have any questions about our organizational change. Remember that we will remain NICS, and our employees and service to you is not changing. We value you and all that you have done for us.

Thank you,

The NICS Staff

"In Nature there is abundance, with Nature there is success"