

GEA signs contract to build the largest Olive Oil mill in Asia

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GEA received the order from The National Agricultural Development Company (NADEC) in March 2019 to build and supply the industrial equipment for a large olive oil mill located in Saudi Arabia.

This important contract comes in at more than three million euro. NADEC is one of the largest agricultural and food-processing companies in the Middle East and North Africa. The scope of the project, located in the region of Al-Jouf, is expected to encompass 5 million olive trees from a single farm of 3,000 hectares.

The order is the second phase of an ongoing project and will enlarge the existing olive oil plant – successfully built in 2016. The contract is a result of a long cooperation and relationship between NADEC Group and the technology group GEA in food processing, and more particularly in the dairy products sector as well as the success achieved in the first phase of the project.

The second phase will involve civil engineering, automation engineering, processes and all the necessary industrial equipment to manage the olive oil plant successfully. The project, led by GEA, accommodates the combined efforts of several Spanish machine manufacturers, which in the end will be configured as an integrated solution – practically a "turnkey" Olive Oil mill.

"The cooperative relationship between NADEC and GEA's Olive Oil Center of Excellence began in 2014. This project is a very good example of GEA's ability to deliver large projects anywhere in the world and provide high added value to customers since not only the equipment but also the knowledge of the process is key" says Alvaro Martinez Regional Head Western Europe, Middle East and Africa.