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## Safies Specialty Foods Hires 25 Employees as Result of Export Success



Safies Specialty Foods Company, Inc. located in Mt. Clemens, Michigan, of the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, has been a consistent attendant of Food Export activities, participating in 15 events since 2013. Safies has participated in Buyers Missions, Focused Trade Missions, and utilized Food Show PLUS!™ services provided by Food Export Midwest and the International Marketing Program of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD). Through these events, Safies has increased their exports to 30% of their overall sales as well as grown total sales by 35-40%. Mary Safie, the President of Safies Specialty Foods, has stated that these events have given the company the opportunity to “meet face to face with key buyers to cultivate relationships critical for international business development.”

As a result of their export growth, the company has hired an additional 25 full time employees and 25-30 seasonal employees since 2013. Mary Safie states that much of their growth is due to their “success with programs available through the USDA F.A.S. [United States Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service], Food Export Association, and MDARD.”

Safies Specialty Foods Company, Inc. specializes in gourmet pickled products. They have a large variety of pickled products, including beets, pickles, beans, asparagus, garden mix, and peppers. They continually add new varieties of products to their line, with the most recent addition being their Organic Sweet Pickled Beet.

Food Export uses funding from the Market Access Program (MAP) to help America’s small businesses increase their exports of food and agricultural products. As these exports increase, these small businesses are creating jobs and improving the strength and stability of our agricultural economy. Food Export-Midwest and Food Export-Northeast are non-profit organizations that work in collaboration with their member state departments of agriculture and the USDA’s Foreign Agricultural Service. They offer a wide range of programs and services that help boost America’s agricultural exports.

For more information on the International Marketing Program please visit [www.michigan.gov/agexport](http://www.michigan.gov/agexport) or for more information about Food Export Midwest please visit [www.foodexport.org](http://www.foodexport.org).

