



Nigeria Flour Millers Executive Team
US / Nigeria - A Successful Model for Trade
April 17 – 24, 2010
Participant Biographies

Folarinmi Babatunde ODUNAYO
Vice Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
Honeywell Flour Mills Plc



Folarinmi Babatunde Odunayo graduated from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, where he obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture. He became the Managing Director of Honeywell Flour Mills Plc (HFMP) in 1999. He expanded the business of Honeywell Flour Mills Ltd in 1999 from 250 metric tons (MT) per day to 1,610 MTs per day by 2007.

Mr. Odunayo was the first prize winner in the 1980 final qualifying examination for the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) and is a Fellow of ICAN. His professional achievements include: Former Finance Director, Hagemeyer Nigeria Plc.; Vice Chairman, Business Advisory Council of the Faculty of Business Administration, University of Lagos; Vice Chairman, Flour Milling Association of Nigeria; and Council Member, Association of Operative Millers, Middle East and Africa District. He is married with children.

Marcus Olakunle ALAKE
Chief Operations Officer
Dangote Group



Mr. Marcus Olakunle Alake is a graduate of Civil Engineering from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria and is also a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria. Mr. Alake started his working career with Price Waterhouse Coopers, a firm of chartered accountants, in September 1984 in the area of financial consultancy and the development of strategic plans (audit assignment).

He has had extensive stints in strategic planning and financial control having served in the position of Strategist and Financial Controller with various indigenous companies of high repute spanning the banking, audit consultancy, and manufacturing sectors. Mr. Alake also served as a Management Consultant and part of the team that turned around the fortunes of International Trust Bank Plc for a smooth take-over by the Dangote Group in August 1996.

He joined the Dangote Group in July 1997 as the Financial Controller and Head of Strategic Services. He was later charged with the responsibility of supervising the Finance and Accounts, Group Treasury, Import & Procurements Divisions as the Group Strategist and Executive Director. In January 2007, Marcus was appointed the Chief Operating Officer of the group with overall supervisory responsibility of the various Strategic Business Units (SBU), Human Resources and Administration, Information Systems, Strategic Planning & Control. In all, he has brought his experience to bear on the fortunes of the Group, leading to enhanced staff motivation and growth. Mr. Alake is married with two children.

Kabiru Isyaru RABIU
Group Executive Director
BUA Group



Kabiru was born into the Isyaku Rabiun family of Kano in 1980. He was educated in Kano, Nigeria and in England. Kabiru studied management and computer applications at Webster University, London, England. He obtained a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) with an emphasis on International Business at the American Intercontinental University (AIU) in London, England, in 2002.

Mr. Rabiun is the Group Executive Director for BUA Group. BUA Group is a conglomerate known for sugar manufacturing, cement, vegetable oil, wheat flour production, and pasta production. His work experience began in 2002 as Assistant General Manager and he was promoted in 2005 to the position of General Manager. In 2008, Kabiru was promoted again to the position of Managing Director and was finally elevated to the Group Executive Director position in February 2010. He is married.

Adebowale AGBONYIN
Executive Director
BUA Flour Mills Ltd.



Mr. Debo Agbonyin is an Executive Director in charge of Investment and Corporate Services at BUA International. He is a graduate of the University of Ibadan with a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and he possesses a Master's Degree in Finance from the University of Leeds. Debo has worked for Mobil Oil Nigeria Ltd as a Financial Analyst and was a Senior Audit Trainee for Foremost Accountant Consultants. In 1990, he joined BUA International in Lagos as a Manager, with responsibility for bills and credits of imports. Debo was later promoted to Assistant General Manager in charge of Investment and Corporate Services. Due to good work performance, he was promoted to his current position of Executive Director of BUA International. Mr. Agbonyin is married with two children.

Deepak SINGHAL
Chief Executive Officer
DUFIL / Indomie Noodles



Mr. Deepak Singhal is Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Dufil Prima Foods Plc, a position he has held since July 2008. Dufil Prima Foods Plc is the market leader in Nigeria in the instant noodles business under the brand Indomie. Prior to this appointment, he was the Group Chief Executive Officer, a position he held for the previous two years. Before joining the Dufil Group, Deepak was the Group Chief Operating Officer for the Tolaram Group of Companies in Nigeria and before that appointment, he was the Chief Operating Officer of MultiPro Enterprises Limited. Before joining the Tolaram Group in Nigeria, Mr. Singhal worked with Unilever India for two years. He is a graduate of the St. Xaviers's College, Calcutta University, India and is a qualified Chartered Accountant of India. Deepak is also an Associate Member of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India.

Jerry OMORUYI
Chief Operations Officer
Bendel Feeds & Flour Mills Ltd.



Jerry Omoruyi was born in 1960 and he started his tertiary education in the University of Benin where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. He joined Bendel Feeds & Flour Mills Ltd. in Ewu (Edo State) in 1986 as an Administration / Commercial Officer in charge of the company's commercial activities. Due to his dedicated performance to the function of his company, Jerry Omoruyi rose quickly to the position of General Manager in 2004. In recognition of his achievement, the Board of Bendel Feeds & Flour Mills promoted him to the position of Chief Operating Officer (COO) in 2009. He has attended several international training programs in Financial Management at Columbia University, New York, USA, a Risk Management course at the International Grains Program (IGP), Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, USA, as well as many others. He is happily married with children.

Vasant HINGNIKAR
Project and Investment Manager
Panabiz / TOLARAM Group



Vasant Hingnikar was born in 1975. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering and a Master's of Business Administration with an emphasis on International Business. He has ten years working experience and is currently working for Panabiz International Ltd, which is a subsidiary of the Tolaram Group. He is the Project Finance Manager for his company and among other current responsibilities has an assignment of setting up a flour mill in Lagos in the near future. Vasant is married with a child.

Rajesh Kumar GAGGAR
Procurement Manager
DUFIL



Rajesh Gaggar works for a foremost noodle company in Nigeria known as Dufil Group where he heads the Logistics and Procurement Division. Rajesh's responsibilities include: negotiate with suppliers of raw materials for his company; oversee all post shipment activities; source new supplies for raw materials and packing materials; and oversee all export activities and the interdivision transfer of raw materials. He has been a Chartered Accountant since 2005 and is married.

Kikelomo Olufunmilola AYOOLA
Manager, Commodity Finance
Ecobank Plc.



Kikelomo Olufunmilola Ayoola was born on March 13, 1973. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Economics. Ms. Ayoola has 10 years of working experience in credit administration, relationship management, financial analysis and planning, credit structuring and business development, product development, marketing, and sourcing for funds. Her work diversification pitched her in dealing with various clients of national and international repute, as well as multiple ethnic and cultural exposures.

Kikelomo has worked in various commercial banks in Nigeria and presently works with Ecobank Plc as the Relationship Manager and Team Leader for the Flour Team. She is happily ma



Mr. Solomon Ubaka OBICHUKWU
Milling Director
Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc

Solomon Ubaka Obichukwu was born on September 23, 1950 at Aba, Abia State. In 1976, he graduated from the German Milling School in Germany as a Milling and Production Engineer. Presently, Solomon works with Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc as the Milling Director. He has worked at Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc for 37 years. Solomon belongs to various international bodies and associations. He has attended top executive management courses in Europe and in the United States.



Olumuyiwa TALABI
Consultant
U.S. Wheat Associates

Muyiwa Talabi, who was born in Nigeria, has represented U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) since 1994. For six years prior to joining USW, he was the Agricultural Specialist at the U.S. Consulate in Lagos. Talabi brings a deep knowledge of Nigerian business and culture to USW. Educated in Public Administration and International Relations at the University of Lagos, Muyiwa spent two years with the Lagos government as an Administrative Officer, leaving to take a private sector position with Kingsway Stores, a Unilever supermarket chain. Prior to his college years in public administration, he majored in history and philosophy, earning university honors. Muyiwa is married with three children.



Gerald THEUS
Assistant Regional Director, Sub-Saharan Africa Region
U.S. Wheat Associates

Mr. Gerald Theus is Assistant Regional Director of the Sub-Saharan Africa Region of U.S. Wheat Associates (USW), having been with USW since 1993. In addition to Gerald, the Sub-Saharan office is staffed by Mr. Ed Wiese, Regional Vice President, a full-time flour milling consultant, and three support staff. The Sub-Saharan Africa office is responsible for USW market development programs, including technical assistance, staff training, trade servicing, and market analysis in the 36-country region. The region has three official languages and over 3,400 local ethnic dialects. Gerald attended Northern Illinois University. Prior to his current position, Gerald was the producer/distributor for Des Moines, Iowa based Pioneer Hi-Bred Seeds International in the Ivory Coast. Previous to his stint at Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Gerald was President of Motown Industries, Africa Division.