



Grupo AKIKO, Ball Horticultural Company Form Joint Venture, Strengthen Distribution Partnership In Mexico

The agreement solidifies a long-term partnership and brings together two strong horticulture companies in distribution for the Mexican marketplace.



WEST CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, August 2020: Leading seed and young plant distributor *Flores y Plantas de Calidad*, a member of Grupo AKIKO, which serves the Mexican market, has agreed to a joint venture with North American leader in horticulture Ball Horticultural Company. The 50/50 partnership will continue to provide family-owned parent company Grupo AKIKO access to the vast horticulture offerings of Ball. The two companies have a long-term partnership of more than 20 years, and this agreement solidifies their commitment to each other's success, growth and innovation.

"For decades, Ball has enjoyed a strong relationship with Grupo AKIKO as the leading distributor in Mexico, and we believe in the growth of the Mexican horticulture market," says **Susannah Ball**, spokesperson for Ball Horticultural Company. "As a neighbor with access to existing supply channels, plus with their dedication to the industry, joining with AKIKO is a positive next step in our ongoing partnership."

Grupo AKIKO will continue under its current leadership and dedicated management teams.

"Our vision has always been to provide the highest quality products with the best technical information to serve our clients," says **Claudia Lee**, on behalf of Grupo AKIKO, which serves ornamental growers in more than 15 states of the Republic. "Our customers will ultimately reap the benefits of this partnership and we look forward to more collaboration between our two strong companies."

For more information, visit the Ball corporate website at www.ballhort.com or visit www.akiko.com.mx.

About Ball Horticultural Company

Ball Horticultural Company is an internationally renowned breeder, producer and wholesale distributor of ornamental plants. A family-owned business since it was founded in 1905, Ball has introduced many innovative and award-winning varieties to the world of horticulture. The company has worldwide production, sales and marketing through its many subsidiaries on six continents. For further information, visit ballhort.com.

About Flores y Plantas de Calidad

Flores y Plantas de Calidad, founded in 1990, provides horticultural products from all over the world for its grower customers in Mexico. Their outstanding service is based in technical product support and adaptation to growing techniques. It distributes more than 16,000 articles of main lines throughout the complete Mexican Territory via strategically located facilities within areas of ornamental production. Visit akiko.com.mx to see product diversity that makes your business flourish.

Flores y Plantas de Calidad is a member of Grupo AKIKO, which was founded in 2017 with the purpose to unite know-how, give better customer service and to be able to offer a wider range of products under one brand name.