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Lee Container 'Partners in Quality' two years running

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CENTERVILLE — Lee Container Corporation received Syngenta's "2009 Partners in Quality" award, the second year in a row for Lee. Yesterday morning Syngenta officials presented the award at the Lee Container plant in Centerville during an employees luncheon.

"Obviously a great achievement to get this award this year, 'Partners in Quality,'" Greg Fenton, Lee Container facility manager, said. "The employees should be extremely proud. And I know that I'm proud of them."

Lee Container Corporation Executive Vice President Robert Varnedoe said he was proud to have the award presented in Centerville, where virtually no quality complaints have been made since the plant began operations two years ago.

"Even though it is a corporate award ... we choose Centerville because we just felt like it was a good place to receive the award," Varnedoe said. "Again, this is a proud moment for us. You've got a lot to be proud of. We can't say enough about the great jobs that each and everyone of you has done."

Lee and Syngenta have been working together for 21 years, Varnedoe said.

Patty Krajewska, Syngenta quality specialist, said Lee Container was one of three companies to win the award a second time. She said in 600 orders Lee Container bottles had a 99.8 percent quality rating.

"And you've produced 5.3 million bottles for us, which is an amazing job with no issues, which is outstanding," Krajewska said. "So we want to tell you, 'Thank you.'"

Syngenta is a global ag-business that deals with 30,000 suppliers worldwide spending \$7 billion a year. They have more than 25,000 employees in 90 countries.

David Wolverton, Syngenta NAFTA procurement head, said they have a special relationship with Lee Container. He said Lee was one of 60 companies invited to Berlin to attend the Syngenta supplier conference.

"And for Lee to be there, it's extremely special," Wolverton said. "You're competing with companies from all over the world."