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## **Alter Eco wins Environmental Stewardship in Whole Foods Market<sup>®</sup>'s 2014 'Supplier Awards'**

**AUSTIN, Texas (April 24, 2014)** – Tuesday night, Whole Foods Market named Alter Eco the winner of its Environmental Stewardship award in the grocer's coveted annual Supplier Awards. The awards are the grocer's highest honor for producer partners, and spotlight natural and organic suppliers who best embody Whole Foods Market's mission and [core values](#).

Alter Eco was one of only 19 recipients of this year's Supplier Awards. Fewer than 50 natural and organic supplier partners have been recognized with this prestigious honor to date. Whole Foods Market global buyers and experts who work side-by-side with hundreds of national suppliers to bring products to market carefully selected awardees.

"We are truly honored to receive an award for Environmental Stewardship from Whole Foods Market, amongst twenty fantastic brands that bring brilliant new ideas and innovation to our industry. The support from Whole Foods since Alter Eco launched in the US in 2004 has been remarkable, and instrumental in helping us build our full circle sustainable brand: 100% fair trade, organic, carbon compensated and soon-to-be entirely distributed in home compostable packaging," said Mathieu Senard, co-founder and CEO. "Many thanks to Whole Foods, and especially to the company's executive global grocery coordinator, Errol Schweizer, for supporting mission driven companies the way they do. Together, we are building a better life for small-scale farmers around the world while fighting to protect and regenerate our planet."

Alter Eco was rewarded for the brand's long history of responsible sourcing, and for launching its fair trade truffle line in innovative, compostable packaging – all the way down to each candy wrapper – that could degrade easily in both home and commercial compost operations.

"At Whole Foods Market, we live and breathe our core values, and one of those values is creating win-win relationships with our suppliers. We're excited to spotlight our outstanding suppliers whose shared passion, hard work and true partnership is helping us set the industry standard – for quality, ethical sourcing, environmental stewardship, and more," said Jim Speirs, global vice-president of procurement, non-perishables.

All of Whole Foods Market's Supplier Award winners were announced at last night's reception in Austin, Texas at the Stephen F. Austin Hotel.

For more information on Alter Eco, visit [www.alterecofoods.com](http://www.alterecofoods.com)

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**ABOUT ALTER ECO:**

Alter Eco is a values-based brand of specialty food products that brings delicious, exotic, high-quality and healthy foods from around the world to consumers in the United States, while directly benefitting small producers in the Global South. A Public Benefit Corporation, we apply full-circle sustainability throughout our operations and supply chain comprising four pillars: sourcing using Fair Trade principles, production of only organic and non-GMO foods, minimal waste by working towards 100% compostable packaging, and reinvesting in communities where we do business through reforestation initiatives and technical assistance and financing for farmers. These principals are entwined with Alter Eco's commitment to the highest quality and taste in everything we bring to the table: Bolivian Royal quinoa, Swiss-made chocolate bars and truffles, heirloom rice varieties and Mascobado sugar from the Philippines. More information is available at [www.alterecofoods.com](http://www.alterecofoods.com) .