



Rabobank

**Media Release
April 15, 2014**

Rabobank opens afresh in central Christchurch

Continued strong growth in New Zealand has seen specialist agribusiness lender Rabobank relocate to state-of-the-art premises in the new 'Rabobank Building' in central Christchurch.

The Christchurch branch of the world's leading specialist agribusiness bank and the third largest lender to rural New Zealand reopened on Monday 14 April at Level 2, 12 Papanui Road.

Rabobank northern south island regional manager David Clarke said the new premises catered for expanding staff numbers and would enable the branch to better service rural farmers and agribusinesses in the Canterbury region.

"We've almost doubled in staff numbers in the last decade so we're excited to move to modern, newer premises with improved technology and more space, which will allow us to grow into the future," he said.

Rabobank's Christchurch branch offers the full spectrum of services to agricultural industries with a local rural banking division ('on-farm'), a food and agribusiness banking operation ('beyond the farm gate'), a credit approvals division as well as members of the Bank's renowned Food & Agribusiness Research and Advisory team.

"Rabobank clients benefit from our leading local and global agribusiness expertise and knowledge," Mr Clarke said. "We meet with our clients where it's convenient for them – at the kitchen table for some or at the boardroom table for others – and provide access to personal service and agriculturally-focused finance products."

The relocation of a global brand towards the centre of Christchurch, which was significantly affected by the earthquake, demonstrates optimism in the future of the city.

"We're one of the first major banks to move towards central Christchurch after the earthquake and we're in reach of the vibrant Victoria street precinct where many professionals are starting to relocate, which will assist us in working together in support of our clients," Mr Clarke said.

The purpose-built Rabobank branch is easy to locate with improved parking facilities for clients, larger boardrooms and green-rated services.

Mr Clarke said the branch is well positioned to capitalise on a bright outlook for the sector.

"It's an exciting time for agriculture in this country with a growing world population increasingly looking to New Zealand to supply quality food products," he said.



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“And we’ve got plenty of talented food producers in this region, who are optimistic about the future.

“Dairy farmers have had a stellar year on the back of strong prices and improved production, while sheep and beef farmers and viticulture growers are expecting a better year compared to the last.

“The region is strong, the city is on the rebound and we’ve got a great team of people in place supporting the future of agriculture.”

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Rabobank Australia & New Zealand is a part of the international Rabobank Group, the world’s leading specialist in food and agribusiness banking. Rabobank has more than 110 years’ experience providing customised banking and finance solutions to businesses involved in all aspects of food and agribusiness. Rabobank is structured as a cooperative and operates in 41 countries, servicing the needs of approximately 10 million clients worldwide through a network of more than 1600 offices and branches. Rabobank Australia & New Zealand is one of Australasia’s leading rural lenders and a significant provider of business and corporate banking and financial services to the region’s food and agribusiness sector. The bank has 29 branches throughout New Zealand.

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