

Gulf Food Industries to build three factories

by [David Ingham](#) on Sunday, 03 April 2005

Gulf Food Industries-California Garden (GFI), part of Kuwait Food Company, plans to invest up to US \$95.3 million in food production facilities at Dubai Techno Park. The move will help GFI increase its output of canned, frozen and dry foods.

"The [investment] in the Techno Park has come about due to the outstanding services that are offered at the zone and its imminent growth into the Middle East region's hub for high technology," says Ziad Abdel Rahim, general manager, Gulf Food Industries-California Garden.

"The endorsement of the Government of Dubai as well as many private and semi-private organisations in Dubai has been a key investment driver, as was the importance given to the food processing and packaging industry by the zone, which has significantly eased the investment decision making process."

Three new factories will be built in three stages. Phase one will see AED 150 million (US \$40.84 million) spent, with two additional investments of AED100 million (US \$27.23 m.) in phases two and three.

Several well known brand names come under the GFI umbrella, including California Garden, Americana, Mazraa and Mazraa Premium. The variety of products manufactured by the company is diverse, ranging from canned beans, seafood and fruits to blended olive oil, ketchup and mayonnaise.

Dubai Techno Park has positioned itself as a hub for hi-tech manufacturing industries, with F&B manufacturers high on the list of firms it is looking to attract. "Dubai Techno Park has accorded the food processing and packaging industry strategic status," says Abdulla Al Qurashi, CEO, Techno Park.

"GFI, with its expertise in regional markets, has certainly added value to Dubai Techno Park and its presence in the zone will enhance our position as the leading centre for food processing, packaging and shipping in the region."



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