



NEWS RELEASE

## Del Taco Expands in Central California

9/28/2015

West Coast Convenience Store and Petroleum Franchisee Expands Portfolio to Include Craveable Mexican and American Favorites

LAKE FOREST, CA -- (Marketwired) -- 09/28/15 -- Del Taco Restaurants, Inc. (NASDAQ: TACO), a leader in the Mexican quick service restaurant (MQSR) category, announced today that three new groups have recently signed on to develop 27 new Del Taco restaurants within the Central California region. Three new locations are slated to begin opening within the next six months. Del Taco, a favorite and fast-growing national brand, is renowned for serving a made-to-order menu featuring fresh ingredients at an unbeatable value.

At the helm of two of the new Central California Del Taco stores is Mike Sater, a resident of La Verne, California, and one of BP/Tesoro ARCO and AM/PM's largest West Coast franchisees.

"As a Sater family favorite, Del Taco's delicious food is what initially drew me to the brand," said Sater. "Combined with the company's longstanding commitment to quality and freshness, the economic opportunity involved, and the enormous potential for growth, the decision to go with Del Taco to diversify my portfolio was a natural fit."

Sater signed a 20-store development agreement which includes six counties in the central valley. His first two Del Taco stores will open in Fresno, California, and Clovis, California, and a third is planned for Merced, California.

Sater is no stranger to successfully managing franchises in volume. A Cal Poly Pomona graduate, he has his masters in Structural Engineering, and having built and operated over 100 sites over the years, is still an owner, operator and the Vice Chairman for the Franchisee Advisory Council for ARCO and AM/PM. With the new addition of a restaurant brand, Sater will also receive support from an experienced restaurant operating partner to help focus on his Del Taco business.

"It's an exciting time for the Del Taco brand and we've continued to attract a number of notable and experienced franchisees looking to build upon their existing portfolios," said Laura Tanaka, director of franchise development. "We're currently focusing on recruiting new franchise partners to continue our growth and development in the Bay Area and Northern California, as well as many other areas of the nation where exclusive territories are available."

The MQSR category is one of the fastest growing industry segments, and Del Taco attracts a broad customer base across age groups, income levels and demographics. Focused on made-to-order menu items and fresh ingredients, Del Taco is committed to product innovation and staying ahead of trends to meet customers' growing demands for quality food served at a great value.

Del Taco continues to recruit qualified franchise candidates with foodservice operations and real estate experience. The company offers extensive training, as well as operational and marketing support to franchisees. Those interested in Del Taco and great franchise opportunities should visit [www.deltacofranchise.com](http://www.deltacofranchise.com) and register for an informational webinar.

#### About Del Taco Restaurants, Inc.

At Del Taco (NASDAQ: TACO) all menu items taste better because they are made to order with fresh ingredients including handmade pico de gallo salsa, fresh sliced avocado, marinated grilled chicken, lard-free beans slow-cooked from scratch, and cheddar cheese grated from 40-pound blocks. Featuring a working kitchen in every restaurant, Del Taco serves breakfast, classic Mexican dishes such as tacos, burritos, quesadillas and nachos as well as American favorites including hamburgers, crinkle-cut fries and shakes. Del Taco's UnFreshing Believable campaign communicates the lengths the company goes to in order to deliver quality, made-to-order menu items created with freshly-prepared ingredients at a tremendous value. With nearly 550 restaurants in 16 states, Del Taco serves more than three million guests each week. In June 2015, Del Taco changed its name to Del Taco Restaurants, Inc. following the completion of its transition to a public company. Like Del Taco on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/deltaco](http://www.facebook.com/deltaco) or join its Raving Fan eClub at [www.DelTaco.com/RavingFan](http://www.DelTaco.com/RavingFan). For more information, please visit [www.deltaco.com](http://www.deltaco.com).

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Source: Del Taco Restaurants, Inc.