Michael Mack

Chief Executive Officer (CEO), executive Director. Member of the Chairman's Committee and the Corporate Responsibility Committee

Age: 51. Nationality: American.

Appointed 2008.

Michael Mack was Chief Operating Officer of Seeds (2004–2007) and Head of Crop Protection, NAFTA Region (2002–2004) for Syngenta. Prior to this, he was President of the Global Paper Division of Imerys SA, a French mining and pigments concern, from the time of its merger in 1999 with English China Clays Ltd., where he was Executive Vice President, Americas and Pacific Region, in addition to being an Executive Director of the Board. From 1987 to 1996 he held various roles with Mead Corporation. Michael Mack is also Chairman of the Board of the Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce.

Michael Mack has a degree in economics from Kalamazoo College in Michigan, studied at the University of Strasbourg, and has an MBA from Harvard University.

Alejandro Aruffo

Head of Research & Development

Age: 52. Nationality: American/Italian.

Appointed 2008.

Alejandro Aruffo was Vice President Global Pharmaceutical Development, Abbott (2005–2008), President Abbott Bioresearch Center and Vice President Abbott Immunology Research and Development (2003–2005), President Abbott Bioresearch Center and Divisional Vice President Abbott Immunology Research (2002–2003), Vice President Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disease Drug Discovery (2001–2002), and Vice President Immunology Drug Discovery (1998–2001) for Bristol-Myers Squibb. Prior to these roles he held various positions at Bristol-Myers Squibb.

He graduated from the University of Washington with BSc degrees in chemistry and mathematics and from Harvard University with a PhD in biophysics.

John Atkin

Chief Operating Officer

Age: 58. Nationality: British.

Appointed 2000.

John Atkin was Chief Operating Officer Crop Protection for Syngenta since its foundation until February 2011. Prior to that, he was Chief Executive Officer (1999–2000), Chief Operating Officer (1999), Head of Product Portfolio Management (1998), and Head of Insecticides and Patron for Asia (1997–1998) of Novartis Crop Protection. Prior to 1998, he was General Manager of Sandoz Agro France (1995–1997) and Head of Sandoz Agro Northern Europe (1993–1995). In 2008 he was appointed Visiting Professor at the Institute for Research on Environment and Sustainability (IRES) at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. He is also Chairman of CropLife's Crop Protection Strategy Council (global industry association). He was appointed as a non-executive Director of Driscoll's in 2011.

He graduated from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne with a PhD and a BSc degree in agricultural zoology.

Robert Berendes

Head of Business Development

Age: 46. Nationality: German.

Appointed 2007.

Robert Berendes was Head of Diverse Field Crops (2005–2006) and Head of Strategy, Planning and M&A (2002–2005) for Syngenta. Prior to this, he was a partner and co-leader of the European chemical practice at McKinsey & Company.

He graduated from the University of Cologne with a diploma in chemistry and has a PhD in biophysics from the Max-Planck-Institute for Biochemistry/Technical University of Munich.

Christoph Mäder

Head of Legal & Taxes and Company Secretary

Age: 52. Nationality: Swiss.

Appointed 2000.

Christoph Mäder was Head of Legal & Public Affairs for Novartis Crop Protection (1999–2000) and Senior Corporate Counsel for Novartis International AG (1992–1998). He is Chairman of scienceindustries, the association of Swiss chemical, pharmaceutical and biotech industries. He is also a Vice Chairman of economiesuisse, the main umbrella organization representing Swiss economy, and a member of the Executive Board of the Business and Industry Advisory Committee (BIAC) to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

He graduated from Basel University Law School, and is admitted to the Bar in Switzerland.

Mark Peacock

Head of Global Operations

Age: 50. Nationality: British.

Appointed 2007.

Mark Peacock was previously Head of Global Supply (2003–2006) and Regional Supply Manager for Asia Pacific (2000–2003) for Syngenta. Prior to this he was a Product Manager in Zeneca Agrochemicals and General Manager of the Electrophotography Business in Zeneca Specialties.

He has a degree in chemical engineering from Imperial College, London, and a Masters in international management from McGill University in Montreal.

Davor Pisk

Chief Operating Officer

Age: 53. Nationality: British.

Appointed 2008.

Davor Pisk was Chief Operating Officer Seeds for Syngenta from 2008 to February 2011. Prior to that, he was Region Head Crop Protection Asia Pacific (2003–2007) for Syngenta and Region Head Asia for Zeneca Agrochemicals (1998–2001). Prior to 1998, he was Head of Herbicides for Zeneca (1993–1997) and General Manager of ICI Czechoslovakia (1991–1993).

He has a BA in Economics and Politics from Exeter University, UK, and an MA in Political Science from the University of California, USA.

John Ramsay

Chief Financial Officer

Age: 54. Nationality: British.

Appointed 2007.

John Ramsay was Group Financial Controller (2000–2007) for Syngenta. Prior to that, he was Zeneca Agrochemicals Finance Head Asia Pacific (1994–1999), Financial Controller ICI Malaysia (1990–1993), and ICI Plant Protection Regional Controller Latin America (1987–1990). Before joining ICI in 1984, he worked in Audit and Tax at KPMG.

He is a Chartered Accountant and also holds an honors degree in finance and accounting.