

China's Shanghai Kaichuang plans €30m Albo tuna plant in Spain

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Chinese seafood giant Shanghai Kaichuang International Marine Resources plans to build a €30.4 million (\$36m) plant in Spain to combine production from two leased facilities operated by its Hijos de Carlos Albo subsidiary.

Shanghai Kaichuang, ultimately part of state-owned diversified food conglomerate Bright Food (Group), plans to build a plant in Salvaterra de Mino, a town in Galicia close to the Portuguese border, according to a stock exchange release.

The new factory measures 19,300 square meters and is based on a site approximately 63,000 square meters. It comprises processing, canning and sterilization, and packaging workshops, as well as cold storage and refrigeration facilities, cooking equipment, a warehouse for finished products, auxiliary warehouses and office space.

Shanghai Kaichuang will finance 30% of the €25.25m (after a deduction for value-added tax) and 70% will come from bank loans. The plant will take 18 months to build and will go into operation in 2022.

The new plant will take the production from Albo's plants in Cillero and Vigo, both in Galicia. The company also operates a plant for ready-meals in Tapia de Casariego.

Both the Cillero and Vigo plants are located in the city centers and are too small and cramped, said Shanghai Kaichuang. "So, Albo needs to invest in a new plant and merge Cillero and Vigo."

The state-owned Bright absorbed Shanghai Fisheries (Group) General Corp -- the parent of Shanghai Kaichuang -- in May 2017. Shanghai Kaichuang bought Albo for €61m in 2016.

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