

**PRESS RELEASE** – Berlin, 04.01.2010



**Comedy event with healthy networking for 400 guests  
GFI Fructinale in MarheinekeMarkthalle sold out**

**On 4 February, to mark the leading international trade fair "Fruit Logistica", the association of German wholesale markets is again staging its "Fructinale" event.**

Andreas Foidl, GFI board member and managing director of Berlin's wholesale market, is looking forward to this exclusive trade meeting with its relaxed atmosphere: "The Fructinale was sold out within three weeks. Attendance by more than 400 guests from the business, political and media communities is strong affirmation that wholesale markets are an important economic factor. We are especially looking forward to the increased number of guests from the Federal Republic of Germany and from various special interest groups. Our event is a success already."

The mix of comedy, fresh food and drink, networking and an unusual location combine to make the Fructinale unique. Once more it is party time in Marheineke market hall in Berlin-Kreuzberg, one of the city's last surviving retail market halls. This year Ingo Oschmann, one of Germany's best-known comedians, promises to provide a welcome break from the stresses of the fair. The caterers and traders from Marheineke Markthalle will be serving guests with many different culinary delicacies as refreshments.

The event has the support of numerous well-known sponsors who grow or wholesale produce, or are active in the services and media fields. They are all likewise looking forward to meeting and talking to interesting people and enjoying a good time.

**Sponsoren der Fructinale 2010**

- ▶ Fruchthandel Magazin, Düsseldorf
- ▶ Weihe Früchte & Salate KG, Berlin
- ▶ Godeland Vermarktungsgesellschaft mbH, Glückstadt
- ▶ Chiquita Deutschland GmbH, Duisburg
- ▶ Fruchtimport vanWylick GmbH, Düsseldorf

- ▶ Zespri International Germany GmbH, Hamminkeln
- ▶ Consorzio Melinda, Cles, Italien
- ▶ Wirsol Solar AG, Waghäusel
- ▶ Veolia Umweltservice Nord-West GmbH

**About GFI German Wholesale Markets.** GFI German Wholesale Markets was founded in 2000 and represents the interests of Germany's 16 major wholesale markets. GFI is the central point of contact for national and international growers seeking to market their produce through quality, independent food retail channels. GFI offers its members a forum for the structured exchange of information and insights on ways to market wholesale markets; it also offers public platforms such as a joint stand at the Fruit Logistica and its own website, [www.grossmaerkte.org](http://www.grossmaerkte.org)

**About German Wholesale Markets.** These fresh produce centres guarantee a wide variety of top quality fresh produce, especially fruit and vegetables. At these central, urban trading platforms around 2,600 small and medium sized wholesalers, importers and growers supply fresh produce from the region and all over the world to more than 53,000 customers in the specialist, independent food retail business such as greengrocer shops and street markets and to large-scale caterers and top restaurant chefs. Annual turnover of goods is around 7.4 million tonnes with a total value of roughly 9.8 billion euros. Germany's wholesale markets thus ensure the availability of good, nutritious food for around 100 million consumers in Germany and neighbouring European countries.

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