

Norwegian king crab supplier steps onto global stage

Firm ready to bring its products to market after new plant inaugurated.

by
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Norwegian firm SeaGourmet Norway is ready to take on the global snow and king crab market after opening a new factory in Batsfjord, Finnmark.

“We’re opening new marketing channels every day, and every week we receive inquiries from more countries,” Andrei Kazakov, communications director at the firm, told **IntraFish** sister publication *Fiskeribladet Fiskaren*.

But demand is particularly growing in Asia, especially in South Korea, the biggest market for snow crab, as well as from the United States for both snow and king crab.

“Consumers know about lobster, but crab is still new for many,” Kazakov said. “They’re the ones we’re targeting. The feedback we have received from the networks we’ve established is highly encouraging.”

Last week marked the official opening of the new factory in Batsfjord, but SeaGourmet Norway kicked off production back in April.

The plant was refurbished from a former fish production facility.

SeaGourmet Norway aims to become a leading producer and supplier of snow crab, king crab and other Arctic gourmet seafood.

Its main supplier is the Latvian firm SIA North Star AS, which operates four customized crab boats that deliver live crab to SeaGourmet's factory.

The factory already employs 30 or so workers, mainly from Latvia, Estonia and Russia.

Kazakov said even though the plant is located in Batsfjord, most of the crab is sent from Kirkenes and Alta due to the larger airports.

“It means an extra cost to transport the goods there, but Batsfjord airport is too small in terms of transport volume capacity, he said.