

Prof. Dr. Leo den Hartog, R&D Director of Nutreco, Professor at Wageningen University and Chairman of the Board of the Victam Foundation, is one of the organizers of The International Feed Technology Congress at the Event Victam International 2022 at Jaarbeurs Utrecht, the Netherlands where Leo den Hartog will be hosting the 2nd edition of IFTC. With great pleasure he shared some of his time to have an interview with us.



Would you please introduce yourself?

“As you’ve introduced me already, I am Leo den Hartog and besides my position at Nutreco, I am also an extraordinary professor of “Animal Nutrition in a circular economy” at the Department of Animal Nutrition at Wageningen University.

I have been involved in academic research of Animal Nutrition for over 40 years. So you could say it is not only my profession, it is also my passion. During these decades of commitment to the industry I have had the pleasure of meeting a lot of colleagues and professionals of whom some have become my friends.”

How did IFTC come to life?

“Feed Processing Technology is extremely important for e.g. high quality feed and feed ingredients. The effects on digestibility and utilization of raw materials for all different animal species are important to our industry. There hasn’t been a conference in this area of expertise before, while there is research done at several places around the globe. Therefore we concluded to organize an international conference where scientific data are presented and where scientists and nutritionists from academia and the industry will be able to meet each other.

The department of Animal Nutrition of Wageningen University and the Victam Foundation are the organizers of the IFTC. From my profession in research but also as chairman of the Board of Victam Foundation there is a great involvement in this conference.”

How did you experience the 1st edition of IFTC?

“The first edition was a great success with 125 participants from more than 30 countries. At the end of the conference a workshop was organized with invited people and here we discussed the research topics for the future.”

Can you give us some hints on the upcoming congress at Victam International 2022?

“The programme is under discussion at the moment so I am unable to reveal any secrets. However... I can tell you that this time feed technology for the aqua and pet food sectors will be included.”

Who do you hope to see at the congress?

“Since we organize this conference every three years I hope to meet all the participants of the last IFTC conference, and of course I would like to see a lot of new participants as well. This is the only place where you can get a quick update of the recent research in Feed Technology and meet a lot of colleagues/experts. This is what excites me the most for both Victam International 2022 and the 2nd IFTC“

Thank you for your time Mr. den Hartog, we are very excited about the 2nd edition of IFTC and we look forward to hearing which subjects will be addressed at the congress.