# HF FOODS GROUP INC. (NASDAQ: HFFG)

HF

March 2024 Investor Presentation

## DISCLAIMER

#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

All statements in this Presentation other than statements of historical facts are forward-looking statements which contain HF Foods Group's (the "Company") current expectations about our future results. The Company has attempted to identify any forward-looking statements by using words such as "believes," "intends,", "potential," "plan," and other similar expressions. Although the Company believes that the expectations reflected in all of its forward-looking statements are reasonable, it can give no assurance that such expectations will prove to be correct. Such statements are not guarantees of future performance or events and are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause the Company's actual results, events or financial positions to differ materially from those included within or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to, low margins in the foodservice distribution industry and periods of significant or prolonged inflation or deflation, qualified labor shortages, competition in the foodservice distribution industry, risks relating to the foodservice distribution industry generally, statements of assumption underlying any of the foregoing, and other factors disclosed under the caption "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022 and other filings with the SEC. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date made. Except as required by law, we undertake no obligation to disclose any revision to these forward-looking statements.



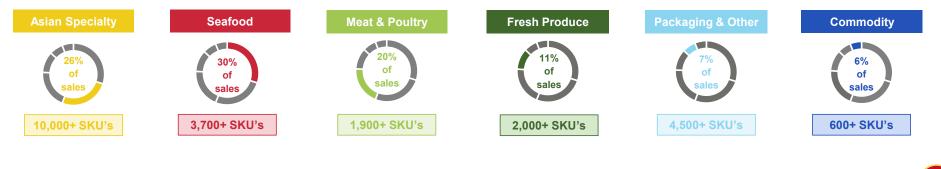
# HF Foods is a leading food distributor for the Asian restaurant market in the U.S.



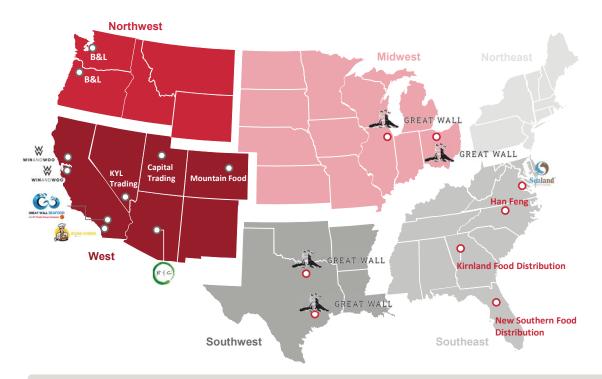
HF Foods strategically leverages its platform to win

- Deep, long-term relationships with diversified customer and supplier base
- Proven pricing power in an inflationary environment attributable to a unique product and service offering
- Broad product selection enabling all types of Asian restaurants to serve their cuisines and supply their restaurants
- Acquirer of choice for Asian themed restaurant distributors with proven ability to drive organic growth in acquired targets
- Diverse management and workforce that relates to the Asian community and genuinely understands the customers' needs

#### Comprehensive "one-stop-shop" product offering that simplifies the customer experience



# HF Foods has extensive reach and distribution capabilities with strong regional operating brands driving success



Brands in each region drive regional customer loyalty

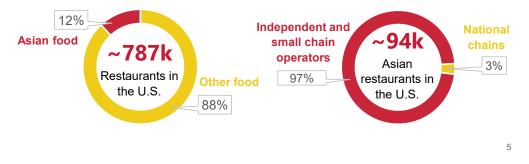
- Strong brand recognition within local client bases allows HF Foods to win against other competitors
- Each brand has deep relationships in its key regions A national company with a local feel for customers
- Meaningful white space for brand expansion and cross selling opportunities in key geographies
- Additional opportunity to grow density within existing markets

#### HF Foods positioning and scale is difficult to replicate

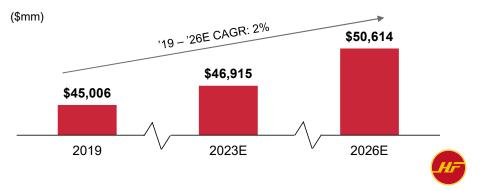
## Unmatched ability to service the large and growing Asian restaurant market...



#### Large U.S. restaurant market with a big addressable market



Large and growing Asian foodservice market<sup>2</sup>



Source: 1) Yelp data 2) Euromonitor

...with a customer-focused and integrated value proposition

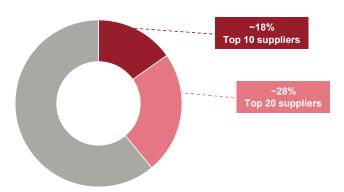
|   |              | National                         | Small/Local                  |  |
|---|--------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
|   | HF           | Large, national public companies | Fragmented, regional players | Why H  |
| Customer stickiness                       | $\checkmark$ | ×                                | $\checkmark$                 | ✓ Customer focus drives h  |
| iiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii    | $\checkmark$ | ×                                | $\checkmark$                 | <ul> <li>Distribution centers are<br/>product and menu decision</li> </ul> |
| National reach                            | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$                     | ×                            | ✓ Foodservice experts with<br>value-added insights in a                    |
| Mission-critical, differentiated products | $\checkmark$ | ×                                | $\checkmark$                 | ✓ Cultural connection sup<br>team, operators and call of                   |
| Authentic and scarce platform             | $\checkmark$ | ×                                | ×                            | engagement and supports  |
| Differentiated go-to-market               | $\checkmark$ | ×                                | ×                            | ✓ Focus on smaller Asian re<br>other large food distribution               |
| Relationships with key suppliers          | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$                     | ×                            | ✓ Strong, tenured relation<br>effective word-of-mouth re                   |
|   |              |                                  | 6                            |  |

# Why HF Foods wins Customer focus drives high-quality service Distribution centers are their own engine – providing tailored product and menu decisions and driving customer engagement Foodservice experts with dynamic industry expertise providing value-added insights in a niche and targeted market Cultural connection supported by multilingual management team, operators and call center representatives drives engagement and supports sticky customer relationships Focus on smaller Asian restaurants frequently underserved by other large food distributors Strong, tenured relationships with customers allow for an effective word-of-mouth referral system

# HF's closely developed and long-standing sourcing partners are key to its operations

- ✓ Ability to source from a deep list of ~30% international suppliers and ~70% domestic suppliers
- Deep connections with smaller specialty suppliers that other national players don't have access to

Fragmented supplier base



# HF Foods is a critical partner for its suppliers <u>and</u> its customers

**1,100+** Vendors **6.2 years** Average vendor tenure with HF Foods

#### Ability to source a broad product offering, allowing HF Foods to become the one-stop shop for clients

 Promote customer stickiness through a partnership approach and highquality product offerings

#### HF Foods drives growth for its suppliers

- ✓ Ability to source on-trend products from a deep list of suppliers
- Many of the Company's suppliers are small / specialty suppliers that lack the brand recognition to drive sales on their own
- ✓ Proven ability to push new products into customer's portfolios
- ✓ Suppliers rely on HF Foods' connections to market their products



**13 months** Increase in average vendor

tenure over the last 2 years

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# HF has tangible growth opportunities, supported by unique go-to-market strategy and capabilities

## Key avenues for outsized growth

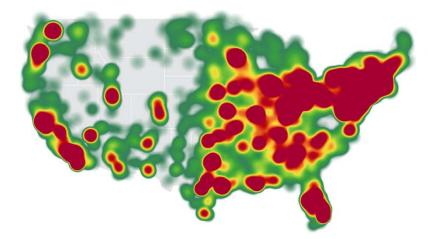
|   | EXPANSION IN<br>CORE MARKETS | <ul> <li>Continued expansion in existing core markets</li> <li>Optimize product mix to capitalize on key secular growth trends within the Asian foodservice market</li> <li>Proven playbook for further expansion in core markets</li> </ul> |
|---|------------------------------|--|
|   | MARGIN<br>EXPANSION          | <ul> <li>Optimization of procurement and warehouse logistics drives margin enhancement</li> <li>Further consolidation of key corporate functions</li> </ul>  |
| 3 | CROSS-SELL OPPORTUNITIES     | <ul> <li>Further expansion of product offerings to increase wallet share with key customers</li> <li>Significant cross-sell opportunities, particularly in the wake of recent seafood acquisitions</li> </ul>                                |
| 4 | ACCRETIVE<br>M&A             | <ul> <li>Pursue tangible acquisition opportunities to further increase scale and reach</li> <li>Drive efficiencies through synergy capture</li> </ul>  |





# Clear line of sight into new locations with repeatable expansion plan

#### Potential new customers (e.g., Asian restaurants)



Low concentration of potential new customers

High concentration of potential new customers

#### Key expansion opportunities

- Meaningful whitespace opportunity across the United States, both within existing markets and in new, untapped markets
- Existing customer base relative to the broader Asian restaurant landscape reveals attractive expansion opportunities within HF Foods' existing geographies
- Tuck-in acquisitions to more efficiently enter new markets
- Fast-track growth supported by HF Foods' current operational footprint
- Expanding presence across the United States will allow HF Foods to implement its playbook in untapped markets



# 2 Clearly defined margin expansion strategy

Initiated operational transformation plan to improve margins through achieving growth and cost savings

## **Significant Operational Initiatives**

| Operational Initiative                | Description  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Consolidating procurement operations  | <ul> <li>Centralized purchase order management and strategic sourcing</li> <li>Improved spend analysis to identify inefficient sources and optimize procurement network</li> <li>Centralized internal supply and procurement team to facilitate direct procurement and remove the "middleman"</li> </ul>   |
| Optimizing transportation network     | <ul> <li>Network optimization study for improved routing, decreased delivery costs and quicker distribution to clients</li> <li>National fuel and maintenance programs</li> <li>Improved transportation management system, warehouse management system, and DC warehouse optimization to facilitate faster output and leaner operations</li> </ul> |
| Centralizing informational technology | <ul> <li>Workday HR and FIN implementation</li> <li>Key Business Application implementation</li> </ul>   |
| Upgrading facilities                  | <ul> <li>Enable cross-selling opportunities to increase wallet share</li> <li>New facilities to capitalize on significant white space for growth</li> </ul>  |





# B) Opportunity to cross-sell products across business units

Cross-sell products across full HF Foods customer base

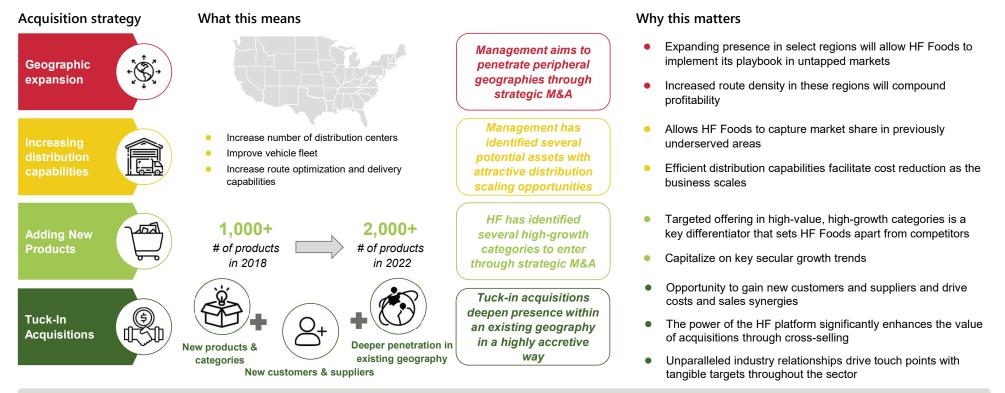
- Significant cross-sell opportunity, especially in seafood
  - Expand newly established seafood offerings from Great Wall and Sealand through other DCs
  - Robust geographic cross-sell opportunities
- Increase wallet share with customers
- Deeper integration within key aspects of the customer's business deeper customer relationships
- Increase customer lifetime value (CLV)
- Increased revenue capture with only some expansion in capacity required





# 4 Proven M&A Playbook

#### HF Foods' thoughtful acquisition strategies identify M&A opportunities with significant and attainable synergies



HF Foods is the acquirer of choice for most targets – most M&A targets initiate a conversation with HF



# HF Foods is one of the only scaled, nationwide operators serving the Asian Foodservice market

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STRONG VALUE PROPOSITION AS A LEADER IN ASIAN FOOD DISTRIBUTION National reach with a regional feel gives HF Foods an edge

to serve single restaurant and small chain owners

## POSITIONING AND SCALE IN A NICHE SECTOR DIFFICULT TO REPLICATE

Language and cultural background represent high barriers to entry making it hard for large national players to enter the space

### ROBUST UNDERLYING MARKET TRENDS WITH FAVORABLE DEMOGRAPHICS

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Low barriers to entry for new restaurants and increasing demand for Asian food will continue to drive growth

## ATTRACTIVE FINANCIAL PROFILE WITH A DEFINED GROWTH AND MARGIN EXPANSION STRATEGY

Tangible avenues for growth and margin enhancement supported by robust management plans already being implemented

### DIFFERENTIATED, CUSTOMER-CENTRIC BUSINESS MODEL

One-stop-shop solution and flexibility to respond to customer needs gives HF Foods an edge vs. larger players

# SEASONED MANAGEMENT TEAM POSITIONING THE BUSINESS FOR SUCCESS

Professionalized, highly experienced, motivated, and culturally connected management team with a clear plan for the next phase