### Investing themes for 2023 Part 1 — Food Waste

written by InvestorNews | January 3, 2023 Hello 2023! So long and good riddance to 2022. From a personal investment perspective, I'm more than happy to look at 2022 in the rear-view mirror. My year-end portfolio review was a sobering reminder of what I already knew, another lesson in humility that hopefully I will continue to learn from to become a better investor. Now it's a time for renewal and the look ahead to what might be in store for us in the weeks and months to come. What investment themes will emerge that will help soften the blow of the damage done in 2022. A healthy share of fossil fuel exposure in the first half of last year would have gone a long way to mitigating the carnage inflicted by big tech and crypto. Uranium and lithium stocks also started out the year strong but seemed to lose momentum as the year came to a close. Everyone seems to think we'll all be driving EV's in short order, but the stock price of many of those companies have been crushed of late. Are these buy the dip opportunities or is the market coming to the realization that we might be a little early for some of these trades?

I'm not sure that I have any useful insights for you based on my 2022 portfolio performance, but over the next couple of weeks I will take a stab at a few themes that might start to gain traction as 2023 progresses. With that said, there are several enormous macro issues (China/Taiwan, Russia/Ukraine, resurgent Covid to name just a few) out there that could completely trash any ideas I have and put them far from the focus of investors. Nevertheless, we have to start somewhere, so today we'll explore a broad theme of food security, sustainability and food waste reduction as inflation takes its toll on consumers world wide.

Food waste and spoilage statistics are quite alarming. According to the UN Environment Programme, about <u>one-third of food produced globally</u> for human consumption each year is lost or wasted. That is approximately 1.3 billion tonnes of edible food. Saving just a quarter of food lost or wasted globally each year would feed 870 million people. Not only does this result in financial losses but it also increases greenhouse gas emissions (another key theme and global focus). Are there ways to fix this? Yes. But similar to reducing our global carbon footprint it's going to take time and a concerted effort. However, I would argue that there is a much greater economic incentive today to reduce food waste given everyone's concern about food prices relative to opinions even as recent as a year ago.

One group at the forefront of trying to remedy this situation is <a href="TrustBIX Inc.">TrustBIX Inc.</a> (TSXV: TBIX | OTCQB: TBIXF). As an innovative leader, TrustBIX provides agri-food traceability and chain of custody value solutions. The Company's goal is to create a world where we trust more, waste less and reward sustainable behaviour by addressing consumer and agri-food business demands. The proprietary platform, BIX (Business InfoXchange system), is designed to create trust without compromising privacy through innovative, blockchain-derived use of technology and data.

### Digital Transformation in Ag & Sustainability



### Asset Tracking & Theft Protection

### Why?

To mitigate the \$10-15 billion annual fraudulent food claims, and theft of agricultural equipment.

### Traceability & Verification of ESG & Product Claims

### Why?

To verify agri-food products source and means of production.
To support ESG reporting.

### Impact of Sustainability Practices & ESG goals

### Why?

To reduce the roughly 1/3 of all edible food that is lost to waste annually and record ESG practices

Source: TrustBIX Fact Sheet

The existing customer base includes hundreds of producers, auction markets, and feedlots. TrustBIX has a market presence in Canada, the USA, China, Mexico, and a healthy baseline of one-time and recurring revenue. Some notable customers include two of the largest beef companies in Canada, JBS Canada and Cargill, as well as household names such as McDonald's and Loblaw's (Real Canadian Superstore). Additionally, the Company will be presenting at this year's CES (Consumer Electronic Show) in Las Vegas where they will be exposed to plenty of industry heavyweights. Even more exciting for the company is that they will be on a panel discussing "Cross-Industry Opportunities for Consumer Tech" along with John Sheehan, a Strategy and BD executive with Amazon Web Services' Aerospace & Satellite group. That seems like someone worthwhile getting to know, especially for a Company with a market cap of only C\$3 million.

Will TrustBIX be a good way to play the food security and waste prevention theme in 2023? Only time will tell. But I dare say that the food theme will at least start the year at or near the top of everyone's list of concerns.

### Hubert Lau of TrustBIX talks about their new food supply chain solutions and building revenue

written by InvestorNews | January 3, 2023 In this InvestorIntel interview, host Tracy Weslosky talks to <a href="mailto:TrustBIX Inc.">TrustBIX Inc.</a>'s (TSXV: TBIX | OTCQB: TBIXF) CEO Hubert Lau about how agribusiness gaints Cargill and JBS use TrustBIX's technology to help create a sustainable beef supply chain.

In the interview, which can also be viewed in full on the InvestorIntel YouTube channel (click here to access InvestorChannel.com), Hubert talks about how in addition to Cargill and JBS, TrustBIX has developed long-standing relationships with some of the biggest pork suppliers in China. "If you look at the top 10 pork processors in China, some of them are the largest in the world. They use our pork grading system."

Hubert goes on to discuss how with the release of the BIX Impact module which expands the capabilities of the BIX platform to track sustainable practices, as well as a SaaS traceability solution called BIX Origin that provides verifiable data at every step of the supply chain, now "our focus is to grow that revenue and those opportunities for us."

To access the full InvestorIntel interview, <a href="click here">click here</a>

Don't miss other InvestorIntel interviews. Subscribe to the

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ViewTrak Technologies Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary, provides a suite of hardware and software solutions to the livestock industry in Canada, United States, Mexico and China, such as Auction Master Pro, Market Master, Feedlot Solutions and pork grading probes.

The Company's Insight technology offers an edge-to-enterprise supply chain solution that brings asset situational awareness to dealers, equipment fleets, and civil construction managers. The platform allows for the tracking, protection, and identification of movement of assets using self-powered and self-reporting cellular tags and cloud-based suite of tools.

To learn more about TrustBIX Inc., <a href="click here">click here</a>

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## Hubert Lau talks about TrustBIX entering a new growth phase with major agreements in place

written by InvestorNews | January 3, 2023 In this InvestorIntel interview with host Tracy Weslosky, <a href="mailto:TrustBIX Inc.">TrustBIX Inc.</a> 's (TSXV: TBIX | OTCQB: TBIXF) CEO Hubert Lau talks about advances in the Company's "Gate to Plate" blockchain-based platform to trace food supply to achieve more trust, less waste, and track and reward sustainable behaviour.

In the interview, which can also be viewed in full on the InvestorIntel YouTube channel (click here), Hubert talks about how TrustBIX is working with Cargill and JVS, two of the largest food processors in the world, and how TrustBIX can track and provide secure supply chain data on essential foods such as cattle, pigs and chickens from farm to table, eliminating waste and increasing profits in a truly green and ESG transparent way.

Hubert also discusses how TrustBIX is now in a scale-up phase with significant agreements in place and record reported earnings last years, as well as a recent acquisition of a company that allows them to track and manage high-value agricultural and other equipment.

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**TrustBIX** 

expands

with

# strategic software acquisition and a new agreement with one of world's largest food companies

written by InvestorNews | January 3, 2023

Environmental, Social, and corporate Governance (ESG) investing is big business these days as many global fund managers are required to use ESG criteria as part of their portfolio selection. According to NAVEX Global: "As of 2020, 88% of publicly traded companies, 79% of the venture and private equity-backed companies, and 67% of privately-owned companies had ESG initiatives in place."

Today's company fits in very nicely with regard to the data needed for ESG reports, particularly with regard to the food supply chain.

TrustBIX Inc. (TSXV: TBIX | OTCQB: TBIXF) offers a blockchain-based platform to trace food supply to achieve more trust, less waste, and reward sustainable behaviour. TrustBIX has two platforms 'BIX' (Business InfoXchange) and 'ViewTrak'. BIX traces food from farm 'Gate to Plate®' to ensure that the food is sustainably produced. ViewTrak provides a suite of hardware and software solutions to the livestock industry.

### TrustBIX expands its reach due to the completion of the 'Insight' acquisition

TrustBIX recently <u>finalized the acquisition</u> of a company called Insight Global Technology Inc. (Insight), which tracks and manages high-value agricultural and other equipment. TrustBIX

CEO, Hubert Lau, <u>stated</u>: "Together with Insight, we will be combining our BIX technology and incentive solutions with Insight's edge-to-enterprise supply chain solutions. With this expanded suite of offerings, we continue our commitment to expand our Gate-to-Plate® technologies for our customers."

The purchase of Insight allows for TrustBIX to significantly expand their customer base well beyond the food supply chain. This is because Insight provides solutions to track, protect and identify the movement of high-value moveable equipment used in agriculture as well as other industries. Insight describes their business as "an edge-to-enterprise supply chain solution that brings asset situational awareness to dealers, rental fleets, and civil construction managers."

Furthermore, the Insight acquisition has been executed strategically using TrustBIX equity. The <u>brief details are</u>: "The Insight shareholders will receive 10,000,000 Consideration Shares (subject to certain resale restrictions) on closing, and an additional amount of up to 20,000,000 Consideration Shares (subject to applicable escrow and resale restrictions) may be issued by the Company based on the satisfaction of certain financial metrics over the twelve months after the closing of the transaction."

### TrustBIX signs agreement with JBS Food Canada ULC

As <u>announced</u> on May 3, 2022, TrustBIX has also signed a master services agreement with JBS Food Canada ULC ("JBS Canada"). This is a big deal and may potentially open the door to a larger JBS deal in the future. JBS is one of the world's largest food companies, which prepares, packages and delivers fresh, further-processed and value-added premium protein products for sale to customers in approximately 100 countries on 6 continents.

The news release states: "The companies will work as trusted

partners to grow sustainable beef production in Canada. These services support the evolution of the JBS Angus beef brand with full chain of custody data tracking and analysis by the Company's proprietary platform, BIX."

David Colwell, President of JBS Canada, <u>comments</u>: "Food integrity is at the core of the JBS Canada Advantage, therefore working with the TrustBIX team will enhance the JBS journey to provide unmatched quality and service, along with accountability and transparency. JBS looks forward to developing a sustainable Angus beef program for our retail customers. We believe in this partnership with TrustBIX and their commitment to our sustainable beef program."

TrustBIX sells software to help trace food and agricultural supply chains but has other uses also (energy monitoring, rewarding sustainable behaviour, tracing high value moveable equipment)

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Source: <u>TrustBIX website</u>

### Closing remarks

ESG investing is supported by data produced by companies using the best available software. TrustBIX continues to grow their offering of software products designed to support the industry to be able to produce the data needed for full chain of custody data tracking and analysis. The product producer and seller also benefit by having visibility over their supply chain. And finally the consumer benefits also by knowing the products they buy are coming from known sources.

TrustBIX's recent news including the completion of the Insight acquisition and signing the JBS Canada agreement both speaks

volumes for the direction in which TrustBIX is heading.

TrustBIX trades on a market cap of <a href="C\$10 million">C\$10 million</a>.

### TrustBIX expands the coverage of its technology and grows its ESG revenues by sales and a key acquisition

written by InvestorNews | January 3, 2023 One of the biggest trends today is ESG investing. That is investors now demand companies operate in a sustainable way with a focus on Environment, Social, and Governance (ESG). Both customers and investors want to know the details of a company's ESG practices. A key part of this is examining the supply chain.

Security of supply chains and traceability of products has become essential in today's world. Look at the current sanctions on Russia and the need to trace products supply to be sure it is not coming from dictators, such as the Putin regime.

Today's company is focused on supporting companies with the right tools to help meet their ESG obligations. Their initial focus has been on the agri-food industry but there is potential to expand across many other sectors.

<u>TrustBIX Inc.</u> (TSXV: TBIX | OTCQB: TBIXF) offers a blockchain based platform to trace food supply and reward sustainability. TrustBIX has two platforms — BIX which stands for 'Business

InfoXchange', and the other platform is called 'ViewTrak'. The Company has also recently acquired a company (Insight) that tracks and manages high-value agricultural and other equipment.

**BIX** — Traces food from farm 'Gate to Plate®' to ensure that the food is sustainably produced. The BIX platform has over 1,500 producers registered who track cattle as part of Strategic Sourcing through Cargill for McDonald's Canada and other restaurants.

**ViewTrak** — Provides a suite of hardware and software solutions to the livestock industry in Canada, United States, Mexico and China. TrustBIX <u>says</u> that ViewTrak has an 80% and 30% share respectively in the Canadian and US Live Cattle Auction Market software automation space.

### TrustBIX continues to work with Cargill and acquires Insight Global Technology Inc.

In February the Company <u>announced</u> an "innovation agreement" to continue working with Cargill in Canada. The agreement will see TrustBIX provide strategic advisory and technology innovation services. The report <u>states</u>: "This next phase of partnership will explore how to create more efficiencies in the delivery of the program to further advance Cargill's commitments to sustainable sourcing of Canadian beef."

In March TrustBIX <u>announced</u> the signing of Definitive Agreement to acquire 100% of Insight Global Technology Inc. (Insight) for up to 30,000,000 common shares of TrustBIX priced at \$0.18 per share. The <u>deal closed successfully</u> as announced on March 7, 2022.

Insight is an early stage company providing solutions to track, protect and identify the movement of high value moveable equipment used in agriculture and other industries. This is

quite the expansion for TrustBIX from their core area of food traceability.

TrustBIX CEO Hubert Lau <u>stated</u>: "I am very excited about the acquisition of Insight, which is a major milestone for TrustBIX. We are confident that the acquisition will help us expand our BIX platform, enhance our value in supply chains, and enable us to better serve our clients with a more diversified set of products and services. We believe Insight will assist us to drive growth and shareholder value in the months and years ahead."

Insight is essentially an asset tracking platform that tracks, identifies, and reports a client's assets with self-reporting asset trackers.

### Insight is a system of record and visualization service for asset tracking and management

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Source: <u>Insight website</u>

### TrustBIX achieved record annual revenue in 2021

As <u>reported</u> on February 2022, TrustBIX posted first quarter revenue of \$422,261 for the last 3 calendar months of 2021. That compares to all of 2021 revenue of <u>C\$2.17 million</u>, which was up from <u>C\$1.63 million</u> in 2021. You can view <u>here</u> for details on the recent capital raise.

### **Next steps**

TrustBIX states their business strategy is to continue to expand organically and by acquisition. The Company also plans to combine the BIX technology and incentive solutions with Insight's edge-to-enterprise supply chain solutions.

Alex Barendregt, founder of Insight, <u>stated</u>: "We are more than excited for this great opportunity to bring together our technology platforms to be deployed as a unified solution within TrustBIX. We look forward to closely working with the TrustBIX team in implementing this complimentary line of business."

### Closing remarks

TrustBIX is still relatively small but is growing both organically and via smart acquisitions. The Company now effectively has three platforms — BIX, ViewTrak and Insight. These can be combined to create an ever greater ESG package for companies to trace, track, and manage their supply chain and assets.

TrustBIX trades on a market cap of <a href="C\$6.6 million">C\$6.6 million</a>. It is still early days for TrustBIX but so far management is doing everything right. One to watch in 2022.

### Hubert Lau on TrustBIX's record annual revenue in 2021

written by InvestorNews | January 3, 2023 In a recent InvestorIntel interview, Tracy Weslosky spoke with Hubert Lau, CEO of <u>TrustBIX Inc.</u> (TSXV: TBIX | OTCQB: TBIXF) about TrustBIX's recent milestones including an <u>LOI to acquire</u> a tracking solutions provider for high-value moveable equipment used in the agriculture industry and about reporting record annual revenue in 2021.

In this InvestorIntel interview, which may also be viewed on

YouTube (click here to subscribe to the InvestorIntel Channel), Hubert Lau provided an update on TrustBIX's growth strategy to increase revenue and profitability as it moves towards the commercialization of its pilot projects. He went on to provide an update on TrustBIX's blockchain powered agri-food traceability and chain of custody solutions and explained how it helps companies support their ESG claims and helps build trust.

To watch the full interview, click here.

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## TrustBIX's Hubert Lau on expanding the BIX platform across multiple supply chains in the agri-food industry

written by InvestorNews | January 3, 2023 In a recent InvestorIntel interview, Chris Thompson spoke with Hubert Lau, CEO of <u>TrustBIX Inc.</u> (TSXV: TBIX | OTCQB: TBIXF) about TrustBIX's recent <u>enhancements</u> to their BIX platform to provide end-to-end traceability and chain of custody across multiple supply chains in the agri-food industry.

In this InvestorIntel interview, which may also be viewed on YouTube (click here to subscribe to the InvestorIntel Channel), Hubert said that TrustBIX is a technology company with a blockchain infrastructure to validate information and brand claims for companies. He went on to provide an update on TrustBIX's recently signed agreement with the Biomass Quality Network of Canada to develop a Biomass Quality Traceability Protocol. Hubert also provided an update on TrustBIX's recently announced private placement and how the funds will be deployed. Highlighting the strong demand for ESG themed investments, Hubert said that TrustBIX is well positioned to validate claims on ESG from an operational level all the way to the supply chain level.

To watch the full interview, <u>click here</u>.

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### TrustBIX Data Management Platform offers Verification of Sustainability

written by InvestorNews | January 3, 2023 In September 2021, the UN Food Systems Summit was held to highlight one of the building blocks needed to reach the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The main idea of this Food Systems' Summit was that we all must work together to bring about positive changes to the management of global food systems. Presently the UN has defined 17 SDGs, although right now it appears that the world is somewhat fixated on the "Climate Action" SDG that, however, is really only one aspect of sustainability. Others such as eliminating hunger and building sustainable communities rely on healthy and sustainable food systems. When it comes to the definition of a sustainable food system, added are the concepts of economic profitability, benefits for society, positive impacts on the environment and animal welfare. In other words, sustainable food systems must deliver food security and nutrition for all without compromising economic, social and environmental bases.

Why should we care about defining food systems as sustainable? Because all of the SDGs the world is working towards call for deep transformation in agriculture and food systems to make them more resilient, sustainable, and productive. Action must be taken on all levels, from local to global. Good food begins with farmers who grow produce in a way that doesn't harm the planet, continues with governments and businesses that work together to provide affordable and accessible food, and finishes with consumers who make conscious choices about what, where, and when they buy.

Arguably food is a human right, not a privilege. Today we are going to look at a company that believes in creating a world where we trust more, waste less, and reward sustainable behavior in the food chain. TrustBIX Inc. (TSXV: TBIX | OTCQB: TBIXF) is an innovative data management system that provides chain-of-custody solutions, which allows food processors, retailers, and consumers to have confidence that the claims made around important food attributes are true. This is delivered through a business model that combines hardware, professional services and

software solutions. The proprietary BIX (Business InfoXchange System) platform, is designed to create <u>trust and transparency</u> without compromising privacy through innovative, blockchain-derived use of technology and data. TrustBIX delivers independent validation of food provenance and of sustainable production practices within the supply chain. Gate to Plate®, the TrustBIX system is called.

With all that said, let's take a closer look at the sustainability verification business today. While TrustBix management's efforts and the Company's focus is primarily on the development of BIX products and markets, current revenue is generated largely from ViewTrak's products. ViewTrak has developed solutions for many agricultural technology process verification challenges, with an emphasis on feedlots, auctions and meat processors, and its proprietary technology now includes:

- Auction Master Pro and Market Master livestock auction market software solutions to help build and operate auction activities,
- Feedlot Solutions livestock feedlot management software,
- Electronic Pork Grader pork probe technology to help producers price pork carcasses by evaluating carcasses for fat thickness, lean meat thickness, meat percentage and carcass class.

ViewTrak's pork probe technology is now used by the largest pork processor in China and by major pork processors in Canada and Mexico to grade and price pork carcasses.

But the future of the Company belongs to the strategic expansion of the BIX solution, customers for which already include Cargill, which uses BIX as part of its ongoing sustainable-sourcing program for its customers such as McDonald's Canada. Along with enhancing and expanding the capabilities and

functionality of TrustBIX's technology and BIX platform to ensure that the Company continues to be innovative and drives value within agri-food supply chains, TrustBIX's stated objective is to expand revenue streams, including ESG and cleantech initiatives. Just last week the Company announced it had signed a contract to develop a Traceability Protocol for the Biomass Quality Network of Canada ("BQNC"). BQNC is facilitating the commercialization of agricultural biomass for industrial applications through the development and adoption of quality standards and methods. This falls in line with a previously announced contract with All West Demolition Ltd. to track biomass and waste streams to divert material from landfills and to create new products for agricultural and industrial markets. Other ESG initiatives include signing up the Sunterra Group as its first client for the BuildSense® suite of energy management solutions. The BuildSense suite of solutions is offered in three discrete solutions as Build Aware, Build Sight, and Build Sense, and gives customers progressively deeper insight into energy consumption and sustainability management in their business operations.

Talk about ticking a lot of boxes for an ESG investor. With only 38.4 million shares outstanding, TrustBIX has a market cap of \$6.1 million based on its most recent closing price of \$0.16 making this a relatively inexpensive option for some quality ESG exposure in your portfolio. Albeit with a burn rate of roughly \$500k per quarter and only \$900k in cash at the end of Jun/21 TrustBix could be getting close to needing to raise capital, depending on how things have progressed over the last 3 months. The good news is that the company is generating revenue and has made a concerted effort to limit expenses, so perhaps the burn rate may subside and the need for capital will be pushed out past year end. In the meantime, who do you trust and who do you value to verify that? I like to choose TrustBIX.

### Hubert Lau on TrustBIX 'gate to plate' formula that's winning loyalty from the farmer to the retailer

written by InvestorNews | January 3, 2023 In a recent InvestorIntel interview, Tracy Weslosky spoke with Hubert Lau, CEO of <u>TrustBIX Inc.</u> (TSXV: TBIX | OTCQB: TBIXF), about TrustBIX's blockchain based, chain-of-custody, solutions programs, which bring trust and transparency into the agri-food industry supply chain and about the company's <u>recent listing</u> on the OTCQB Venture Market.

In this InvestorIntel interview, which may also be viewed on YouTube (click here to subscribe to the InvestorIntel Channel), Hubert Lau said that TrustBIX data management products allow for collaboration among agri-food industry players without them being required to disclose competitive, private, or confidential information. He went on to explain how as a trusted third party, TrustBIX allows food processors, retailers, and consumers to individually validate brand promises and claims and to create a win-win situation for its Agri-food supply chain participants from the farmers to the individual retailers.

To watch the full interview, <u>click here</u>.

### About TrustBIX Inc.

As an innovative leader, TrustBIX provides agri-food traceability and chain of custody value solutions. The Company's

goal is to create a world where we trust more, waste less and reward sustainable behaviour by addressing consumer and agrifood business needs and demands. The proprietary data management platform, BIX (Business InfoXchange system), is designed to create trust, without compromising privacy, through innovative, blockchain-derived use of technology and data. By leveraging BIX and its unique use of incentive solutions, TrustBIX delivers independent validation of food provenance and of sustainable production practices throughout the supply chain — Gate to Plate®.

ViewTrak Technologies Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of TrustBIX Inc., provides a suite of hardware and software solutions to the livestock industry in Canada, United States, Mexico and China, including Auction Master Pro, Market Master, Feedlot Solutions and pork grading probes.

To learn more about TrustBIX Inc., click here

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risks and uncertainties, including those that the Company does not know about now or that it currently deems immaterial, may also adversely affect the Company's business or any investment therein.

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If you have any questions surrounding the content of this interview, please email info@investorintel.com.

### TrustBIX's Deborah Wilson on Managing Consumer Confidence in its Customers' Food Products

written by InvestorNews | January 3, 2023
In a recent InvestorIntel interview, Chris Thompson spoke with Deborah Wilson, Chief Revenue Officer of <a href="TrustBIX">TrustBIX Inc.</a> (TSXV: TBIX) about how TrustBIX promotes sustainability in the agri-

food industry through its blockchain based chain-of-custody solutions.

In this InvestorIntel interview, which may also be viewed on YouTube (click here to subscribe to the InvestorIntel Channel), Deborah explained how the company's BIX (Business InfoXchange) platform is used to validate claims, or attributes, of food products and food animals thus allowing food processors, retailers, and consumers to have confidence that the claims are true while being educated about what it is that is being offered. TrustBIX worked on McDonald's pilot project for ensuring sustainable beef supplies and is currently working with agricultural trading giant, Cargill, as part of its ongoing sustainable-sourcing program, Deborah Wilson explained how TrustBIX can help when disease outbreaks occur and, how the company's product promotes human and animal health.

To watch the full interview, <u>click here</u>.

### About TrustBIX Inc.

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