**PRESS RELEASE**

**Sparkalis invests in Fooditive, the ground-breaking creator of vegan casein and bee-free honey**

**March 8th, 2023** – FoodTech venture fund Sparkalis has taken a minority stake in Fooditive, a next-gen food technology business specializing in sustainable plant-based ingredients. Fooditive’s innovations include an upcycled calorie-free natural sweetener with the taste and functionality of sugar, which is derived from apple and pear side streams.

Following the investment, Sparkalis Managing Director Filip Arnaut has joined Fooditive’s advisory board. There are now 11 foodtech experts sitting on the board. They will provide advice and insights to support Fooditive’s mission to create plant-based ingredients that are healthier for consumers, better for the planet and kinder to animals.

Fooditive, based in the Netherlands, has risen to prominence for successfully harnessing its precision fermentation technology to produce groundbreaking innovations such as vegan casein and bee-free honey. It also recently became the first food industry signatory to the Washington Compact, a new agreement on conducting business operations in outer space.

**Moayad Abushokhedim, Fooditive CEO and founder, commented:***“Our partnership with Sparkalis will give Fooditive access to many countries worldwide where we do not already have a market presence. This will enable us to take our innovations to a wider audience and in doing so bring about the changes that are needed to ensure the food supply chains of the future are truly sustainable.”*

**Filip Arnaut, Managing Director of Sparkalis, said:***“Sparkalis has acquired a stake in Fooditive because we share the same vision for the future of the food industry. We are both committed to facilitating innovative solutions that will change the way we think about food production and create a more sustainable footprint for the industry.”*

The investment was announced shortly before Future Food-Tech San Francisco (16-17 March 2023), at which Sparkalis will be present.

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**About Fooditive BV**Based in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, Fooditive is a plant-based ingredient manufacturer committed to making healthy food available for all with its 100% natural ingredients. Since it was established in 2018, Fooditive has used its unique fermentation process to create a world-renowned sweetener, made from side-streams of apples and pears. The sweetener’s unique approach provides not only taste but also functionality and a sustainable impact. As the world begins to recognize the value in veganism and sustainability, Fooditive has also recently launched a new plant-based protein that can be used in the food industry to replace dairy in food and beverage applications.

For further information, visit [www.fooditivegroup.com](http://www.fooditivegroup.com)

**About Sparkalis**Sparkalis is an independent corporate venture fund, and a sister company of PURATOS, the global leader in the B2B bakery, patisserie and chocolate sectors. Sparkalis's mission is to work with start-up founders, innovative and business-driven entrepreneurs to transform exciting ideas into successful business realities. Sparkalis is committed to investing in innovative solutions to create, with future partners, a healthier and better *‘food print’* for today’s and tomorrow’s generations around the world.

For further information, visit [www.sparkalis.com](http://www.sparkalis.com)