



RIVER

Reporter
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American Milling river facilities sold for \$34.5 million

Two global commodities companies have invested in a grain handling site along the Mississippi River in Cahokia, Illinois, where they plan to open operations. American Milling's Harold Hutson said Nidera U.S. LLC and Louis Dreyfus Commodities have bought facilities at American Milling's Cahokia site at 189 American Grain St. David Jump is president of American Milling.

According to the St. Clair County assessor's office, LD Commodities River Elevators LLC, an entity created in February that shares a home address with a Louis Dreyfus office in Wilton, Connecticut, purchased three parcels of property from American Milling in December for \$34.5 million. (Of that, more than \$33 million in equipment listed as personal property reduced the taxable sale price to \$1.3 million.)

A Louis Dreyfus employee who did not want to be named confirmed the company had acquired a facility from American Milling and said Louis Dreyfus planned to use it for loading grain, making it the company's first St. Louis-area location. Louis Dreyfus, a global merchandiser of commodities and agricultural products processor, had revenue of \$63.6 billion in 2014, up 9.1 percent from the previous year, according to Fortune. The company is 85 percent owned by the Amsterdam-based Louis Dreyfus Group, a global commodity and asset management company. Hutson said Nidera purchased a grain handling facility that American Milling began constructing in January. Once finished, the facility, one of four at the site, will load grain from trains and trucks to barges. Construction is expected to wrap up this fall, Hutson said. He declined to disclose the purchase price and a record was not available through the assessor's office.

The facility under construction purchased by Nidera represents an expansion at the riverfront site that has followed the construction of a looped rail track complet-

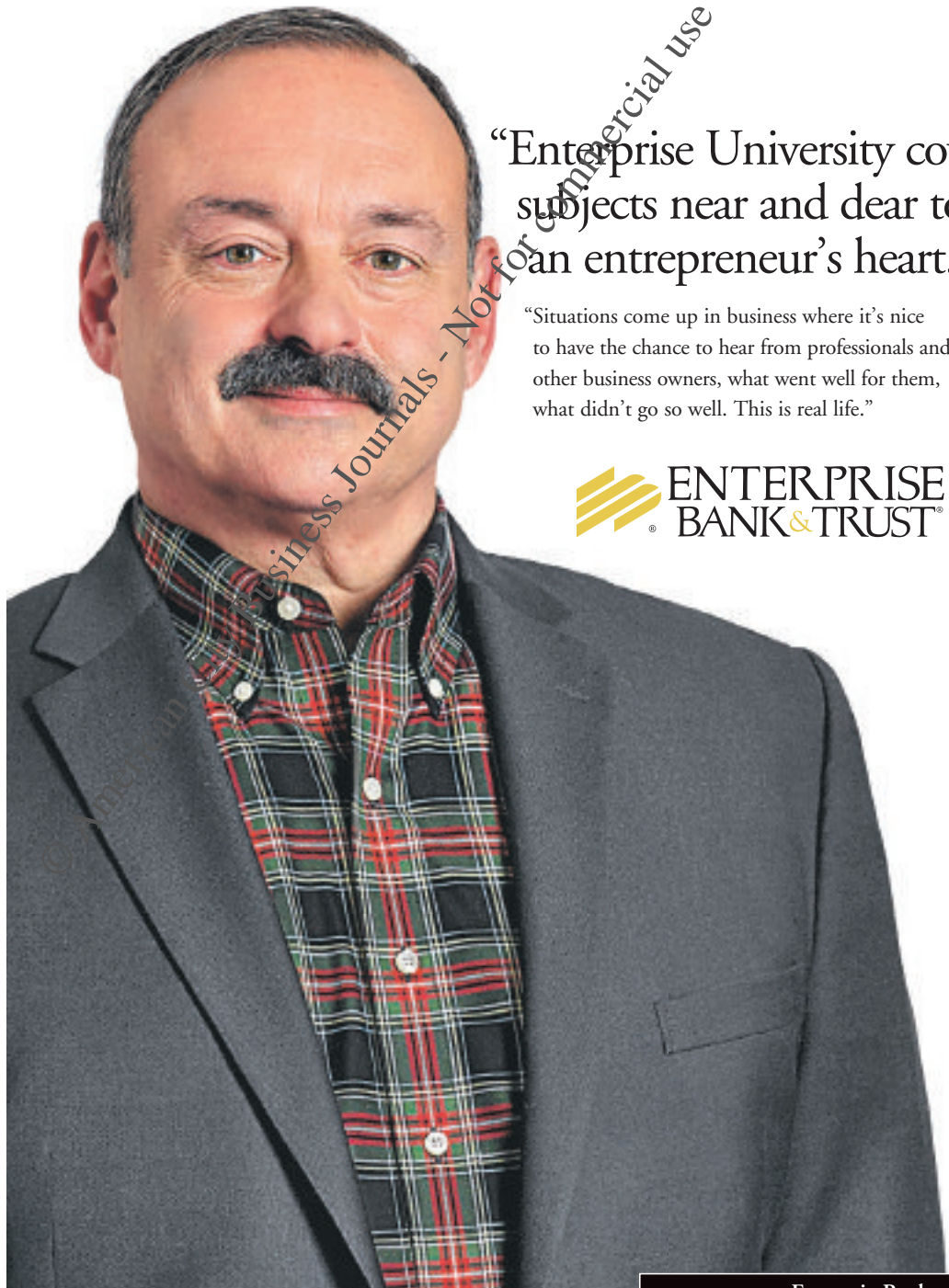
ed in 2012. The facility purchased by Louis Dreyfus was originally built in 2012 to handle coal, Hutson said.

Hutson declined to say how much American Milling, led by president David

Jump, had invested in the site, adding only that it "costs a lot to build one of these facilities." He said the entire site handles about 100 million bushels of grains per year.

In 2014, Chinese-owned grain trader

Cofco Corp., which trades 20 million tons of grain annually, purchased a majority stake in Nidera U.S. parent company Nidera NV. At the time, Nidera was a \$4 billion firm, according to the Wall Street Journal.



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► BY THE NUMBERS

Projected 2015 values for ag commodities shipped on St. Louis-area waterways

\$770.8 million

Cereal grains

\$731.4 million

Other ag products

\$790,000

Animal feed

\$250,000

Milled grains

NOTE: INCLUDES BOTH MISSOURI AND ILLINOIS COMMODITY FLOWS

SOURCE: CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION ANALYSIS

Dan Rodrigues

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