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By:

Heinz Leads the Top of the UK Sauce-maker's Market

U.S. giant Heinz has signed a deal worth \$855 million to acquire several sauces units in the United Kingdom, becoming the top sauce-maker on the market.

U.S. giant H.J. Heinz Co. has acquired the HP Foods brand unit in a deal worth \$855 million (470 million pounds). The acquisition of HP Foods, part of French Group Danone's sauces units and best known for Lea & Perrins Worcestershire sauce and brown sauces including Daddies and HP, makes Heinz the top sauce-maker in the U.K. France Danone will now focus on Actimel, Volvic and Evian drinks sales. The ketchup-to-baked beans company has competed in the HP Foods deal with its UK prestigious rivals Premier Foods, McCormick & Co. and Associated British Foods. The new deal, previously announced by Financial Mail, allows the Pittsburgh-based company to benefit from the right to sell Amoy sauces and products in Europe.