

# 8 Reasons to Become a Member

Are you a farmer actively engaged in production agriculture? If so, we invite you to join Ceres Solutions Cooperative. Membership is often simply a formality that has been overlooked, and it delivers excellent ROI. Join us!

1. If you do business as a non-member, you miss out on advantages.
2. By joining, you instantly strengthen a locally owned and invested input supplier.
3. Patronage is distributed among shareholders after obligations of the business are met. It is paid in proportion to the amount of business a person does with the co-op that year. Refunds come in two forms... cash and equity credits. Since the establishment of Ceres Solutions, more than \$100 million has been returned to our members.
4. Your co-op is democratically controlled by farmers and a representative Board.
5. Our locations employ local people who live, work and serve in your community.
6. Size and scale give us the ability to negotiate on your behalf very effectively.
7. Our existence is dependent upon earning your trust. We serve with integrity.
8. The spirit of this cooperative is based in your farming roots... our success is centered on you.



## **Strong co-ops contribute to strong rural communities:**

As a co-op customer, you buy inputs and services at the most competitive prices we can offer. Then, in addition to fulfilling our commitments to customers, Ceres Solutions invests some of those earnings right back into the communities we serve. Here's how:

- delivering patronage and equity paid back to shareholding members following profitable years
- serving as an employer of choice to benefit the economy, and investing in employee training
- enhancing our locations and assets, plus funding of innovative technology and programs
- strengthening ability to expand services—ready to maximize opportunities in our marketplace
- distributing of thousands of dollars every year to local 4-H, FFA, SWCD, and Food Banks

## **Here's how farmers can help make Ceres Solutions strong:**

- Complete a membership application. Contact your location or call (800) 878-0952.
- Purchase one \$5 share of stock. (use PayPal or enclose check with application)
- Be vocal and active. Give feedback to your local branch team.
- Purchase products and services.
- Receive patronage and equity in profitable years.
- Serve as a director.
- Watch your community benefit through the presence of a thriving locally owned business.