

November 2008 Vol. XXI No. 11

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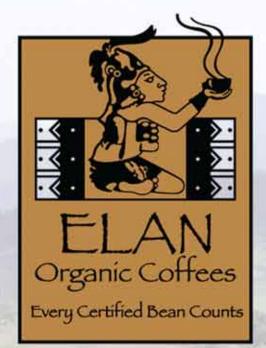
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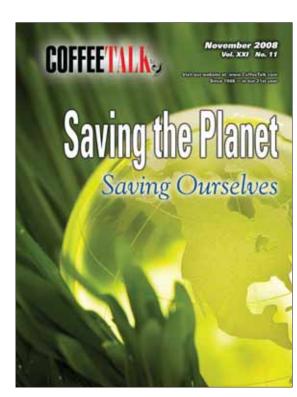


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Features

Saving the Planet, Saving Ourselves: Part 1 -

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uses her considerable
investigative talents to
seek out the cutting
edge of Environmentally
Sustainable Practices in
the coffee industry.

Letter from the Executive Director of the SCAA

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Brand Touchpoints

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Writes of Passage -

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Calendar

2008

Nov. 06-09	<i>The Art of Food & Wine Palm Desert</i> , Coachella Valley, Palm Desert, CA. www.artoffoodandwine.com, 866.96.TASTE (82783).
Nov. 07-09	Coffee Fest Hong Kong, Asia World-Expo, Hong Kong, 425.283.5058, TamaraS@coffeefest.com, www.coffeefest.com.
Nov. 07-15	Kona Coffee Cultural Festival, Hawaii, www.konacoffeefest.com, info@konacoffeefest.com.
Nov. 08-11	International Hotel/Motel & Restaurant Show, Jacob K. Javits
1404.00 11	Convention Center, NYC, www.ihmrs.com, ihmrs@glmshows.com, 914.421.3346.
Nov. 09-13	Pack Expo, McCormick Place, Chicago, www.my.packexpo.com.
Nov. 13-15	4th edition of TriestEspresso Expo, Trieste, Italy, www.fiera.trieste.it/
	espresso, espresso@fiera.trieste.it.
Nov. 13-16	Sintercafe 22nd Annual Conference & Exhibition, San Jose, Costa
	Rica, www.sintercafe.com, 506.223.8864
Nov. 17-20	International Food Process Exhibition, Paris-Nord Villepinte, Paris-
	France, sanjay@erhotels.com.
Nov. 18-30	Elan's Coffee Harvest Tours, Ethiopia, 206.932.8352, elan@
	AdventureAssociates.net.
Nov. 19-21	Boot Coffee Consulting, Roast Profiling & Cupping , Mill Valley, CA, 415.380.1999, courses@bootcoffee.com.
Nov. 20-22	<i>Tea & Coffee World Cup/Aisia</i> , Hyderabad, India, HITEX Exhibition Center, Hall 1, www.teaandcoffee.net
Nov. 24-26	Boot Coffee Consulting, Advanced Roasting Practices, Mill Valley,
1404. 24 20	CA, 415.380.1999, courses@bootcoffee.com.
Dec. 04-06	FHC (Food Hospitality China), Pudong, Shanghai, www.fhccina.com.
Dec. 04-06	The Ultimate Barista Challenge China, Pudong, Shanghai.
	503.232.1016. www.ultimatebaristachallenge.com, info@
	ultimatebaristachallenge.com.
Dec. 17-19	Crafting Quality at Origin Coffee Tour, Boot Coffee Consulting,
	Panama Highlands, 415.380.1999, courses@bootcoffee.com.
	-

Jan. 24-June 07 Coffee: The World in Your Cup, Burke Museum, Seattle, WA.

206.543.5590, theburke@u.washington.edu.

http://www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/info/contact.php,

2009

Feb. 01-04	ISM 2009, Cologne, Germany, www.ism-cologne.com, 773.326.9922,
	v.woods@koelnmessenafta.com.
Feb. 20-22	Coffee Fest Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, IL. 425.283.5058, TamaraS@ coffeefest.com, www.coffeefest.com.
Mar. 10-13	Anuga Foodtec 2009, Cologne, Germany, www.anugafoodtec.com,
	773.326.9922, v.woods@koelnmessenafta.com.
Mar. 29-30	Northwest Foodservice Show, Oregon Convention Center,
	Portland, Or. www.nwfoodserviceshow.com, 800.645.7350, info@
	nwfoodserviceshow.com.
Apr. 18-19	4th Annual Coffee And Tea Festival NYC, Metropolitan Pavilion, New
	York City, www.CoffeeAndTeaFestival.com, 631.940.7290, LyndaC@
	StarfishJunction.com.
May 02-04	World Tea Expo, Mandalay Bay Las Vegas, NV. www.worldteaexpo.
	com.
June 07-09	Tea & Coffee World Cup/Europe, Madrid, Spain, IFEMA Feria de
	Madrid, www.teaandcoffee.net
June 12-14	Coffee Fest Las Vegas, Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas NV,
	425.283.5058, TamaraS@coffeefest.com, www.coffeefest.com.
June 14-16	FHC (Food Hospitality China), Beijing, China, www.fhcchina.com.
Sept. 25-27	Coffee Fest- Seattle, Washington State Convention & Trade Center,
	Seattle, WA. 425.283.5058, TamaraS@coffeefest.com, www.
	coffeefest.com.
Oct. 10-14	Anuga 2009, Cologne, Germany, www.anuga.com, 773.326.9922,
	v.woods@koelnmessenafta.com.
Nov. 20-22	Coffee Fest Singapore, Suntec Singapore International Convention
	& Exhibition Center, Singapore, Malaysia, 425.283.5058, TamaraS@
	coffeefest.com, www.coffeefest.com.
	coffeefest.com, www.coffeefest.com.



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By the time this issue of CoffeeTalk magazine arrives in mailboxes, the election in the United States will be over and we will know who is the next President. CoffeeTalk has carefully kept itself out of the political debate and we certainly do not intend to start now. Our hope however, sitting here on October 30th, is that our next government leaders will recognize the strategic impact coffee has on the national and the global economy. Without putting too fine an edge on it, crude oil benefits a small cartel of producers and buyers, most of whom are generally antagonistic to the welfare of lesser beings such as you and I. Coffee on the other hand benefits small business owners in the US and citizens all across the world, often in the most impoverished and desperate circumstances. The irony of the coffee versus oil debate is that most of the coffee producing countries are some of our most staunch allies. They may be small and weak nations, but they are often true believers in the ideals for which the US stands.

Coffee is the 'canary in the coalmine.' Taking steps to ensure a viable and profitable global marketplace for producers and consumers sets the stage for successful businesses, families, governments, and alliances around the world. Failure to ensure a viable marketplace leads to famine, instability, bankruptcy, and despotism. We pray that our leaders recognize the importance of this simple brown seed. We are all depending on it.

Story follow-up

CoffeeTalk is saddened to say that our lead in June of 08, the effect of speculation and hedging in the futures market, has come home to roost. The systematic looting of the credit and securities markets via extraordinarily leveraged securities (derivatives) based on 'no-basis' securities (zero-down sub-prime mortgages) and guaranteed by undercapitalized private sector default insurance has had a devastating effect on our, and the world's, economy. Coffee, and the other agricultural commodities are going to weather some rough seas before currency, fuel, and credit come into reasonable balance. In the meantime, the cost of production will go up while consumers price sensitivity tightens. CoffeeTalk hopes that at least we have exorcised greed from wealth honestly and fairly gained. Some form of regulation in the coffee industry must be imposed to ensure that consumers, small businesses, and producers are never again driven toward deep poverty by the excesses of anonymous and amoral speculators. Coffee is the livelihood of millions of people worldwide, it is NOT a hedge opportunity!

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Conference News

On a happier note. CoffeeTalk attended two conferences in the month of October - the National Coffee Association Fall Conference in New Orleans and The International Women in Coffee Conference in Costa Rica.

Congratulations to the NCA for it's Fall Educational Conference in New Orleans. If you didn't attend, you missed presentations on a wide range of subjects including future trends, cupping workshops, energy conservation in your retail or roaster facility, managing sustainability, and numerous networking opportunities with some of the most successful operators in the industry.

Sponsored by Community Coffee, PJ's of New Orleans, Fres-co Systems, Reilly Foods, Silocaf of New Orleans, Starbucks, Folger Coffee, and the Westfeldt Brothers, Inc - the Specialty Coffee Industry as well as the broader coffee world was widely represented. New Orleans is one of the largest entry ports for Coffee in the US and the Port of New Orleans provided great tours of the Port operations and DuPuy Storage and Forwarding Corp hosted attendees at their warehouse to learn about the handling of coffee when it first enters the county.

The first International Women in Coffee Conference was held this month in Costa Rica. Over 100 women from five continents joined together at the conference to build professional skills and network with women from crop to cup. Attendees included retailers and roasters from North America, producers and exporters from Africa, India, South America, and Central America, industry professionals and executives from around the globe. Nestor Osorio, executive director of the International Coffee Organization, as well as numerous government officials and prominent industry leaders threw their support behind the emerging International Women in Coffee Alliance and its goal of connecting women from all aspects of coffee to further their success in the coffee industry their member countries, and individually. Congratulations to Grace Mena, Linda Smithers, and the whole team for organizing this successful event and thank you to the sponsors - Bodum USA, Inc, Bunn-O-Matic Corporation, Cablevey Conveyors, Carrie Cups, Dunkin' Brands, Eight O'Clock Coffee, Elan Organic Coffees, illy Caffe North America, Inc., International Paper Foodservice Business, Knutsen Coffees, Ltd., Probat Burns, Inc., S&D Coffee Inc, Starbucks Coffee Co, Stix To Go.

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Saving the Planet & Ourselves:

Sustainability Practices in the Coffee Industry — Part 1

By Rebekah L Fraser

As economies around the world are faltering, environmental concerns continue to garner attention. With over 25 million coffee growers world-wide, the coffee industry plays a significant role in our global economy and community. Many key players in the industry recognize that a more sustainable coffee industry has the potential to make a significant impact on the quality of life for communities world-wide.

Companies are joining forces to bring awareness to these issues. Through coalitions and associations, people from all facets of the industry educate and support one another in efforts to improve sustainability industry wide.

One such group is the Sustainable Packaging Coalition (SPC). SPC envisions a world where all packaging is sourced responsibly, designed to be effective and safe throughout its life cycle, meets market criteria for performance and cost, is made entirely using renewable energy and, once used, is recycled efficiently to provide a valuable resource for subsequent generations.

The coalition's mission is to advocate and communicate a positive, robust environmental vision for packaging and to support innovative, functional packaging materials and systems that promote economic and environmental health through supply chain collaboration. Specialty beverage and packaging companies involved with the SPC are Green Mountain Coffee, Starbucks, International Paper, Georgia Pacific, and Solo Cup.

Solo became involved in order to join with other manufacturers and suppliers in constructive dialogue about sustainability issues, to learn about technological developments that support sustainability, and to participate in positive change.

In addition to being an active member of SPC, Solo Cup Company also uses sustainable bamboo to manufacture their *Bare* line of disposable plates. Bamboo's rapid growth makes this renewable resource an eco-friendly alternative to paper. The Bare line is un-bleached, and un-dyed.

As a provider of a number of disposable products,

Sharon Tett, Foodservice Segment Manager at Georgia Pacific
says it's critical to examine the approach to product design and manufacturing
on an ongoing basis. "We have researchers continually searching for ways to
reduce waste, and who are committed to discovering organic alternatives to noncompostable materials, such as petroleum-based plastics."

Tett says Georgia Pacific's promise to the environment and to the people who use their products is important. "As a society, we're increasingly aware of the collective impact businesses have on the environment. That's why it's critical to share our commitment to adopting the best and safest technologies to support sustainable operations, reduce waste and help promote the responsible use of recycled materials throughout the manufacturing process."

Currently, Georgia Pacific offers a variety of products that contain a high percentage of post-consumer recycled material, a prime example being the *Insulair® Viridian™* cup. Viridian is constructed of a minimum 25 percent post-consumer recycled fiber and its corrugated middle layer is 99 percent post-

consumer recycled fiber. (for more about recycling, see part 2 in the next issue of CoffeeTalk)

Carrie Cups, a wholesaler that caters to small cafes, carries a line of biodegradable food service items made from potato starch and bagasse, as well as hot and cold cups manufactured by Green Good. Their AIR Insulated Cup consists of a minimum of 42% post-consumer waste made with a clay coated outer wall made from 99% post-consumer waste. Green Good's plastics are made from PLA, a corn-based resin, and CPLA, a new high-heat-tolerant corn-based resin. "Other companies have developed CPLA, but Green Good's CPLA is the only line that can handle temperatures up to 212 degrees, the temperature of boiling water," says John Gillespie, of Green Good. Their food service items (bowls, plates, etc) are made from Bagasse, a 100% biodegradable material made from the fiber pulp mass of sugarcane, reed and bamboo. Instead of bleaching the fiber, which would release dioxins into the waste stream, the manufacturer uses ultra-violet sterilization on each food service item to eliminate bacterial contamination from the fields.

Recognizing that any business operation impacts the total environment,
Melinda McDonald, of Bunn-O-Matic Corporation, says,
"Respect Earth" reflects the company's ongoing focus
on preserving the earth for future generations
throughout their supply chain. "We are
driven to continually identify ways to
incorporate this respect for our natural
resources into our daily business
practices and products," says
McDonald.

McDonald believes Bunn's business sustainability is evidenced in product and packaging improvements. She cites the company's adherence to RoHS and WEEE standards of making electronic equipment that is lead free, as well as decreasing truck fleet fuel use, and reducing electricity and natural gas consumption as further efforts to take environmental responsibility and reduce their carbon

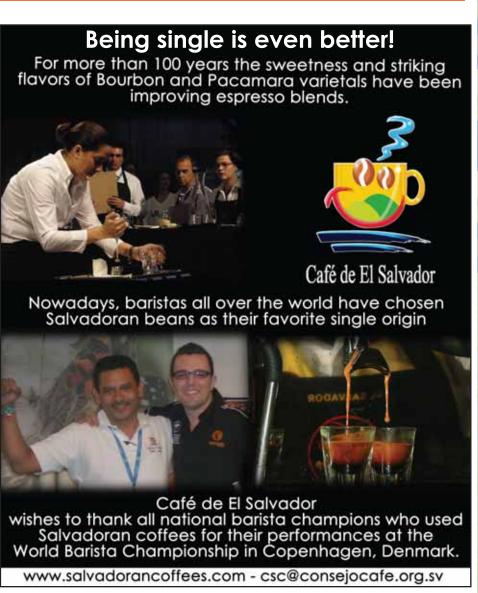
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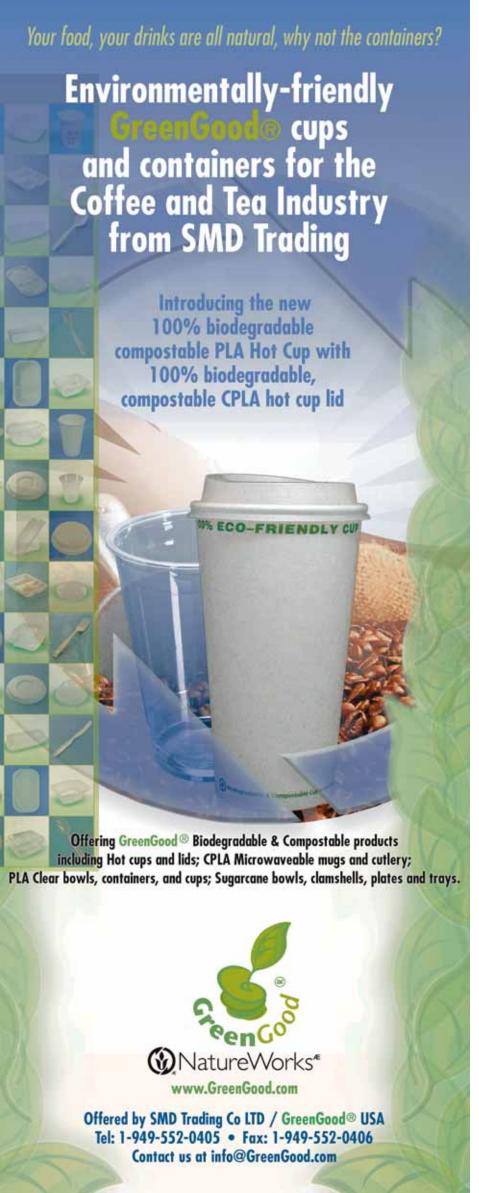
As a leader in coffee and tea brewing equipment, specialty drink dispensers and much more, Curtis brings the industry a forward-thinking approach to designing and manufacturing products with the environment and the future in mind. Combining an ongoing dedication to quality with an eco-friendly focus to help their customers conserve energy and protect the environment, Curtis incorporates "green thinking" into all areas of design. An example is Curtis' exclusive G3 Universal Control Module; G3 provides every piece of equipment with precise control that eliminates large swings in temperature and saves valuable energy. Other innovative features such as insulated hot water tanks, non-HFC tank insulation and energy-saving modes on brewers combine to offer energy and cost savings to every operation.

The manufacturing process has also been updated to streamline materials and reduce waste. From recycling and licensed disposal programs to the reduction of

CoffeeTalk November 2008







I recently read some "heart warming" news from *New York Times* Science Editor John Tierney's website. Researchers have determined that "you're more likely to think warmly of someone else if you're holding something warm in your hand like a mug of coffee."

The study was conducted by Lawrence Williams of the University of Colorado and John Bargh of Yale. Tierney reports that they "gave cups of either hot or iced coffee to people and asked them to rate someone's personality based on a packet of information. The ones who held the hot cup rated that individual significantly higher for 'warmth' than did the subjects holding the iced coffee."

Given the chilly tone of the news lately, and specifically regarding our relationship with coffee, it was great to see this bit on coffee's place in the American psyche. For most Americans, coffee is inextricably woven into our daily lives and represents many positives, including a sense of warmth, renewed energy, better mental clarity, alertness and a sense of well being. In spite of our national embrace of coffee and its extraordinarily appealing aromas and flavors, in the current economic crisis media pundits are advising us to save our way to prosperity by eliminating our daily cup of coffee.

During the last significant economic downturn in the US, the specialty coffee market not only resisted any decline in sales, but saw a record level of new interest. Coffeehouses expanded from an estimated 12,600 units in 2000 to some 17,000 by the end of 2003. This growth occurred in the face of a recession that began in November of 2001 and continued into 2003, at a time when the stock market plummeted and the country was reeling from the attacks of September 11th.

Many have touted the recession proof, or recession resistant, nature of the specialty coffee business based on this compelling growth. Yet, while I advocate a positive outlook on the mid to long term prospects for our industry segment, I caution against any in our industry being too optimistic about the near term future for our business.

Current market conditions provide us with an opportunity to reframe the major criterion for our business from price to value. I believe this will be a key to our continued success. The talking heads in the media ignore two basic truths. First, we like our coffee in the morning, and are loathe to give it up. Giving up coffee feels like defeat, both psychologically and physically. Second, we specifically like how our specialty coffee tastes. Millions of us go to specialty coffee outlets every

Letter from the Executive Director - SCAA

By Ric Rhinehart; Executive Director of the Specialty Coffee Association

day and spend our hard earned money there because the coffee tastes good—better than what we have come to expect from grocery store coffee brewed at home or the free coffee at the office.

As specialty coffee operators, we must focus on the value of that better tasting coffee. Price is an indicator of value in most cases, but in our business the relative difference in price between mediocre coffee and excellent coffee is already disproportionate to the qualitative differences. We must focus on highlighting the significant increase in value we offer despite a modest difference in price. Above

all, we must resist the temptation to push down price. This will only lead to a decrease in perceived value and force downward market pressure onto all of the other actors in the coffee supply chain. To shift the focus onto value we must provide the consumer with easily identifiable clues. Better smells, better tastes and better looking drinks served in cleaner and friendlier environments by happier people will keep us in the warm hearts of the American consumer. <u>cr</u>





It seems that you can't go anywhere these days without a friendly reminder of how your everyday decisions affect our environment. Whether it's your neighborhood grocery store charging for plastic bags, trash cans that prompt you to consider "Paper, Plastic or Trash," or your favorite publications encouraging subscriptions to the online edition, it is certain that consumers are more aware of their wasteful habits. There is no doubt about it, the paradigm has shifted. And just like the rest of the world, specialty coffee holds a huge interest in this growing worldwide recognition.

Next to the oil industry, the coffee industry represents the second largest commodity traded in the world. Since 1989, when the coffee industry

moved from a regulated to a free trade marketplace, the volatility of the pricing structure shifted dramatically. As a result, the entire supply chain, from farmers and producers to green coffee importers, roasters and retailers, have become conscious of the need for developing ethical and sound relationships in order to ensure a quality product.

Industry leaders and members of the Specialty Coffee Association of America (SCAA) are conscious of the responsibility that they hold to inform each other and industry producers of the need and importance of developing sustainable processing systems. Without these, there cannot be a guarantee of quality and demand in a marketplace that remains acutely aware of its global affect on the environment.

SCAA Focuses on the Environment

In fact, SCAA members are particularly concerned about the environment, as demonstrated by SCAA's current and past Sustainability Award winners and the efforts of SCAA members and participants on SCAA's Sustainability Committee. The annual Sustainability Award honors individuals, businesses and organizations in the specialty coffee industry that have created innovative projects to expand and promote sustainability. In 2008, an impressive total of 13 companies submitted their sustainability projects for consideration, and of those winners, several producing countries were represented, including Brazil, Honduras, The Netherlands and Nicaragua.

Because of the work of the 2008 SCAA Sustainability Award winner, Essent Energy Trading and Solidaridad of The Netherlands, coffee husks are now being used as fuel to generate green electricity---a worldwide first. A second winner of the award, Alianza para la Sostenibilidad (APS), financed by Sogimex SA, a member of Ecom Agroindustrial Corp Ltd., is a non-governmental organization founded in order to increase sustainability efforts in Honduras.

"As the specialty coffee industry's premier association, our mission is to educate members and the industry at large on best practices in the coffee sector while assisting farmers in implementing sustainable business practices and increasing yields in an environmentally sensitive manner," says Ric Rhinehart, SCAA's executive director.

SCAA: Securing Sustainability in the Supply Chain

By Laura Lee, Specialty Coffee Association of America

A "Green" Event

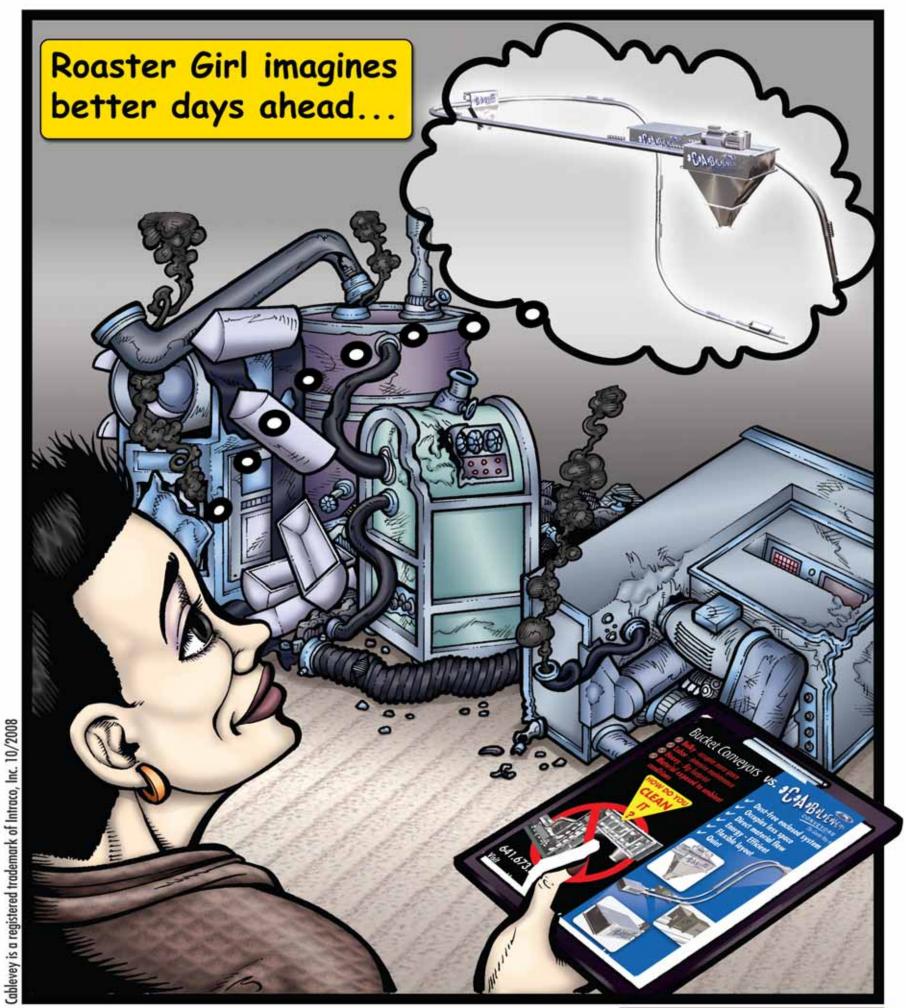
The SCAA took to heart its own need to involve sustainable practices, transforming its annual conference to a "green" event. The association implemented a carbon neutrality program to help offset emissions related to conference travel, lodging and energy consumption. Conference attendees paid a small carbon tariff to participate in the program, and all funds collected were donated to the sustainable agroforestry non-profit organization, Trees for the Future, for the purchasing and planting of new trees.

Go "Green" Now

While the SCAA and its members are taking a proactive stance when it comes to the environment, they want to encourage you to do your part as well. Here are several examples of things you can do right now to be more environmentally friendly:

- Retailers: Engage consultants or industry partners on how to develop more sustainable practices in your business; purchase paper products that are made up of more than 10 percent compostable materials.
- Manufacturers: Start internally by making your own organization "green," then focus on the products and solutions you offer to the industry. Make those products and solutions environmentally-friendly, or offer tips on how your customers can recycle the product or donate it once it's no longer needed.
- Coffee roasters: consider recycled packaging, work with coffee farms that are adhering to environmentally-beneficial practices, educate your customers on your Web site and on your product. Speak at conferences to share what you are doing.
- **Farmers:** Interact with fellow producers and importers to exchange ideas and learn from each other's sustainable practices.
- **Baristas:** Educate yourself on the coffee products that you are passing along to consumers; promote the coffee product that is supplied from producers who uphold sustainable processing.
- Industry at large: Become a member of SCAA and attend the annual conference, happening next April 16-19, 2009, in Atlanta, GA. This event offers lots of educational opportunities on the subject, plus networking opportunities with those who are making a difference. ct

Laura Lee is the partnership programs manager for the Specialty Coffee Association of America, the world's largest coffee trade association. She can be reached at 562-624-4100 or at Ilee@scaa.org. For more information on SCAA, visit www.scaa.org.





to be continued...

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A laptop computer, an Americano, and the power of Brand Touchpoints

By Jeff Cohn

From internationally known coffee companies to independents in the industry, the coffee business has been in the news. My coffee experience will certainly not make the headlines in the Wall Street Journal or CoffeeTalk, but likely offers some good business lessons to share with the readers of this publication that run coffee related businesses.

The Power of Brand Touchpoints

First, a little background. I'm a brand marketing guy. That means that I work with companies, large and small, to help them find their unique distinction in the marketplace and then my firm works side-by-side with their staffs to increase brand value, sales and profitability through advertising, public relations, online marketing, web sites, etc. We call this fully integrated brand marketing where everything works together to bring results for our clients.

One of the key messages we share with our clients is the importance of brand touchpoints. Every time you, a member of your staff or your brand interacts with a customer is a touchpoint. Every touchpoint is an opportunity to build a positive or negative experience for that customer. This goes way beyond customer service. A poorly designed sign (think about those handwritten signs on your door) can send a negative brand message. A great customer service provider can take your brand to new heights. And a well-intentioned but poorly executed business policy can do real harm to your brand in the short and long term. I confirmed that one Sunday several weeks ago.

My Personal Brand Touchpoint Experience

It was a quiet Sunday morning and I was one of only two customers in a cozy coffee shop in Denver that appears to have its brand defined – an attractive and inviting décor, an enviable locale, a diverse food and drink menu and free wi-fi. I patronized this café often as it is close to my office, even holding numerous business meetings there or stopping by for a quick cup. I also had told many people about this place. After paying for an Americano and breakfast sandwich, I found a table and began to bring out my laptop to do some writing. (Due to another meeting later that morning, I only had an hour for some quick productive time). As I sat down, a gentleman (the owner perhaps?) came over and said very firmly, "We don't allow computers on Sunday in here. You'll have to put that away!" I asked why and he said that Sunday was very busy and he couldn't have me sitting there for hours. I explained that I was only going to be there for an hour as I explored the EMPTY store. He said there was no option and I'd have to put it away as he couldn't allow a precedent. I told him that the main reason for being there was to do some writing and he was not impressed.

I asked for a refund on my breakfast sandwich and Americano and my plan for an early morning of writing and relaxation was thwarted. He agreed to provide the refund but the person behind the counter, a young woman with a few too many piercings, replied, "Your coffee can go in a to-go cup. You don't deserve a refund for that." I got even more upset and exclaimed back to her, "It's clear why you are working here...you'd never get a job at Starbucks." Meanwhile, the owner reached into his cash register and handed me his printed Computer Policy. Just what I wanted to see! Yes, admittedly, it wasn't a pleasant scene as the minutes rolled by. Off I went to the big chain where I was greeted warmly, served promptly and treated as a guest. And where I left a very nice tip for the smiling baristas.

The Impact of Brand Touchpoints

Most customers that have negative experience will tell at least 10 people of their circle. In my case, the number is much bigger. Consider my actions after this appalling experience:

- I made a personal commitment to stop visiting this local shop. I will not return and that accounts for significant lost revenue.
- I told several friends of this experience, some of whom live in the neighborhood of the shop. Many had heard similar negative experiences at this establishment.
 Apparently I was not the first.
- I informed my staff (25+) that the company would not reimburse expenses turned in for meetings at this establishment and that we would no longer hold meetings there
- I have chosen to not include the store's name in this article but had I even mentioned it once, nearly 20,500 readers would have heard the story.
- I also chose to not list this experience on the many local coffee/restaurant/food blogs (eg. Yelp.com) available to me but certainly could have. Research of those blogs found similar experiences at this place already posted.

The local shop lost hundreds of dollars of my business, and the patronage of many of my closest business and personal associates. On the other hand, as I've told this story, I have also been sure to celebrate the great experience I had at the chain store (by name of course) and have increased my visitations there since the incident.

Building your Brand in a Competitive Economic Climate

I understand the thinking behind the policy but the owners did not think it through enough. Sure, in the short term, they keep people from just sitting there all day without making additional purchases. But they also turn off loyal customers by sending them away when they did not really have to.

My experience was a profoundly negative brand touchpoint on their business. In my own firm, I remind our team repeatedly of this as it relates to how we serve our clients. We strive to look from the long-term value of the agency's brand and make decisions, policies, etc, from that point of view. Employees are fully empowered to do what it takes to create positive brand experiences for Cohn Marketing when dealing with a client need. I'll always stand behind them on this.

Even the smallest of businesses can approach their business in this manner. It's not out of reach to say that in today's economic climate, well-trained and empowered employees who understand your company's brand can make the difference between staying profitable and shuttering your business. And that is where internal branding comes in. It's good business to have operating policies and guidelines, but employees need to know what you stand for and how to apply those rules within your brand.

Speaking of positive experiences, I wrote this article in a coffeehouse near my home on yet another Sunday morning – laptop and all – and was greeted warmly by a barista who asked, "Are you having a great day so far?" It set a positive day into motion for me and guaranteed my repeat business for weeks, months and years to come. That is the power of brand touchpoints. <u>cr</u>

Jeff Cohn is CEO and Chief Brand Strategist of Cohn Marketing, a brand marketing and PR firm located in Denver, CO. Jeff is one of only 25 Certified Brand Strategists in the U.S.A. He is a nationally recognized speaker and consultant on marketing and brand development with more than 25 years of experience in diverse industries including specialty coffee, real estate, hospitality and tourism. Jeff's work has won numerous national and international marketing awards and has helped small and large companies find their brand distinction leading to business success.

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...continued from page 8

power and lights during breaks and non-operating hours, Curtis extends a "green approach" to all levels of the company.

At Michaelo Espresso, sustainability is ingrained into the corporate culture. Recycling, energy conservation, paperless operations and even potted plant maintenance are de rigueur for all employees, and Alyssa Garvin says going green at the office has increased the efficiency of Michaelo's operation as well as created a "great vibe" for workers.

The Seattle-based espresso machine sales and service company serves a national customer base, and celebrated 25 years in business this year. Michaelo also debuted GreenCart 6.2, a sustainable espresso and coffee beverage cart made of long-lasting seam-welded (partly recycled) aluminum. The cart qualifies for several Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certifications. LEED is a Green Building Rating System by the U.S. Green Building Council, designed to serve as the nationally accepted benchmark for evaluating the design, construction, and operation of green businesses. (For more about this company's commitment to sustainability, see next month's issue)

"There's a great feeling in helping our customers in the specialty coffee industry share their message of environmental stewardship with retail customers," says Garvin. "We'd like to hope we are contributing to the overall 'green' awareness of our society and feel confident that every little effort counts."

Another company making a difference in the industry is La Marzocco, the Italian espresso machine manufacturer who, through a partnership with Probat and Mahlkonig formed the Songwa Estates non-profit cooperative in Tanzania. The mission of the non-profit organization is to provide educational experiences to specialty coffee industry stakeholders. The cooperative has also established a fund for projects, the first of which is to pay for orphans from the farm area to attend primary school.

While organic and fair trade practices continue to increase in popularity, the Common Code for the Coffee Community Association (4C) is helping members of undermine economic development." the industry who don't meet such rigorous standards to improve the sustainability of their businesses. 4C's "Baseline" Standard is built upon the 4C Code of Conduct which covers sustainable social, economic and environmental practices in the coffee sector. The 30 principles of the Baseline are required of all participants in the supply chain, including farmers, plantations, producer organizations, estates, mills, exporters, traders, etc. 4C has also defined ten practices that are considered unacceptable, including "forced eviction without adequate compensation" or "cutting of primary forest". Once the participants from the green coffee supply chain have committed themselves to eliminating these practices, compliance with the Code of Conduct is structured around the concept of continuous improvement.

Growers in the organization are monitored via random third-party inspections. Once they have reached "4C Sustainability", farmers can more easily step-up to more demanding standards. Marie Stich, 4C's communications manager says, "4C is a complementary, non-competing approach to organic and fair trade certification standards."

Ultimately, companies like CE Organics may benefit from 4C's efforts. Louise Wilkie, of CE Organics, says sourcing has been a challenge. To find cost effective, organic raw materials that satisfy the company's quality standards has had its effect on business.

CE Organics' triple-bottom line approach is environmental, social and economic. Yet one of CE Organics' competitive advantages has also created some challenges. The certified organic coffee flavoring producer has been staying ahead or in sync with government and regulatory standards; but problems arise because governments and regulatory bodies don't always adhere to the same standards. "This sometimes puts a wrench in the works when you are trying to fill client orders and the rules aren't consistent in all areas or regions."

Good Cow is another product manufacturer staying ahead of the regulatory curve. Their raw milk quality is 5-10 times higher than the standards the Federal government imposes. "We AUDIT that our farmers don't use hormones, we monitor the treatment of our cows- how they are fed, how they are housed," says Trish Corby. Keeping hormones out of their cows also means keeping hormones out of the water table, a growing concern among environmentalists and health specialists.

"From our Company's inception in 2000, we have taken on the responsibility of "being greener" than what the "standard milk industry" does," says Corby. With a product that takes up less space than traditional milk, Good Cow's concentrated milk uses less fuel for distribution, which means Good Cow sends fewer trucks on the road than other milk companies. Always on the lookout for more sustainable business practices, Corby is currently considering using bio-fuels.

In addition, Good Cow's packaging is easily recyclable and more efficient, and Corby believes many food service businesses are learning that "going greener" has a value way beyond the efficiencies and overall impacts; doing the right thing earns customer loyalty because of their practices. "It's called GOOD BUSINESS SENSE," she emphasizes.

Wilkie concurs, noting both her clients' and her distributors' awareness of the growing opportunities available in the organic market. She's watched them moving steadily into this rapidly growing area of business.

> Douglas Jacques, VP of Business Operations at Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, a cup producer and converter adds, "People often ask us why they should spend more to purchase compostable paper hot cups when foam cups are working for them. We work really hard to convince them that it is the right thing to do for the environment. Partnering with Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired brings the added benefit of providing sustainability for people with visual impairments and the earth. Our program is best stated: "The cup disappears. The impact lives on.""

Elan Organics is one company working to create sustainable relationships between farmers, cooperatives and the buyers. "Our clients realize it is possible to make a difference while making a living and they want to be part of our transparent sustainable chain of doing business," says Kayd Neill.

To keep everyone in the chain connected, Elan offers photos, stories and information about most of their coffee producers.

Neill says although buying "green" organic coffees may seem like a small commitment to a consumer, it has a big impact. "Coffee is the second largest traded commodity in the world after oil, therefore these consumer choices affect millions of people around the globe and the way that coffee is produced." For every bag of organic coffee sold, fewer fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides are used. In this way, a simple decision made at the purchase point has the power to create a better living environment for farmers worldwide and improve soil/air quality on our planet.

In Neill's opinion, it is time for every company to have a sustainable division or department. Everyone should be keeping track of their carbon footprint and trying to reduce it. "We still have time to improve the quality of life for everyone on our planet by going green," she emphasizes.

Wilkie adds that trade associations also play a major role in this. She believes associations should take a more active leadership role in dealing with environmental issues and address the broader concerns inherent in sustainable development, "It only makes sense to make an environmental commitment visible and match words with deeds," she says. "We are not just saving the planet, we are saving ourselves." ct

Louise Wilkie CE Organics





Judy Ganes

Producers Face New Hurdles



By Judith Ganes-Chase, President, J Ganes Consulting, LLC www.jganesconsulting.com

Earlier this decade when the price of coffee slid to historically low levels, some producers were somewhat shielded from the price decay and total world production was still able to climb. Brazilian and Vietnamese production actually flourished during this period, offsetting the losses that were incurred by other countries that were forced to cut back on inputs or abandon their plantations all together. For example, Brazil, the world's largest producer and also one of the most efficient, did not feel the pain from the depressed prices due to favorable exchange rates that offset the plunge in prices. While the value of the Brazilian currency, the real, has softened recently against the US dollar, the declines have not fully offset the recent drop in coffee prices or the spiraling cost of labor and inputs. Brazilian coffee production, as a result is expected to level off or decline, which is in sharp contrast to what had happened during the "crisis period." Many Brazilian coffee farmers are now finding it more advantageous to switch to alternative crops, such as eucalyptus, which is less labor intensive. The expected decline in output comes at a time when Brazilian stocks have been already reduced to bare minimum levels. The government has auctioned off nearly all the remaining bags of coffee that were remaining from the days of Brazilian Coffee Institute, which at one time had mounted to over 17 million bags. Domestic roasters were using this stockpile over the past decade to supplement sales to the internal market, but this source of coffee is no longer available and coffee destined for export will have to compete with the local market where consumption has already swelled to more than 18 million bags annually.

In sharp contrast to Brazil, Central American and African producers saw the greatest losses in production during the period of depressed prices and have not seen their crops fully recover. Coffee output from these countries on a collective basis remains well below prior peaks. Being extremely sensitive to price fluctuations relative to costs, escalating fertilizer prices (which remain still high despite the drop in oil prices) and other inputs will certainly have negative consequences with farmers once again being forced to cut corners as a matter of survival.

In my 25 years experience as a fundamentalist analyzing the supply and demand outlook for coffee and other commodities, there has never been a time

when producers around the globe were ALL struggling to keep pace with the skyrocketing cost of production, as they are today. Labor costs in many countries has been rising, not only from increased competition from other crops, but also due to governments imposing stricter laws protecting the rights of workers and establishing higher minimum guaranteed ranges, improved living conditions, or other benefits, which place a greater financial burden on farmers. A shortage of labor has also incurred in many countries as pickers found better paying jobs in cities or as the next generation sought life off the farm after pursuing an education. The availability of labor may increase in some countries though due to the downturn in the economy as factory jobs are disappearing and construction work slows. This is already evident in a reduced number of immigrants coming to the United States to seek employment; many that have lost their jobs are now returning back to the field, seeking jobs once again in agriculture and picking coffee. The recent plunge in coffee prices, however, in tandem with other commodity and equity markets has pushed the market below the average cost of production and an increased labor pool will help but not offset the challenges most producers are now facing.

Even more concerning than the rising costs is the lack of credit that is currently available and this could have a more immediate term impact as farmers may not have the means to pay workers or farm expenses, taking a toll on output and reducing productivity in what otherwise would have been a favorable harvest. At least earlier in the decade, farmers were able to try to make ends meet by heaping on debt, but for many this option is no longer a viable alternative. With coordinated efforts by the United States and other central banks to try to thaw the credit freeze and restore liquidity, it may be only a matter of time before money starts to flow more freely, but it may be too late to avert difficulties for some this year.

The period of depressed prices at the start of the decade ushered in a new wave of consumer and producer awareness with roasters realizing that the low prices would threaten supply and production was not sustainable at cheap levels. Producers sought to add value to their production by raising quality standards and focusing attention on improving the value of the coffee in the cup rather increasing the quantity of coffee being harvested. Certification programs started to flourish as a means of providing an opportunity to farmers to employ best care practices as well as encouraging social justice, improved worker conditions, and other sustainable initiatives. Farming became greener, with a push to also preserve the environment and conserve on water use. If farmers are not able to reap the rewards for their efforts and have to cut costs, a step back may be forced to be taken. When prices were low, the "social" premium being paid through certification programs is much higher than it is today. An adjustment has not been made to compensate farmers for increased expenses. Prices are determined by the value of the New York futures contract plus a premium and quality differential. A new formula for compensation might need to be addressed to assure the market of having sufficient supply of high quality coffee that more and more consumers are demanding in their cup.

<u>CT</u>

Judy
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AL	Birmingham	Royal Cup Coffee Roasters
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Cardona Coffee
Corsair Coffee
Corsair Handrafted Coffees
Corsair Coffee Roasters
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Safai Enterprises DBA Java Brewing Company
John conti Coffee Co.
Consumer's Choice Coffee
Heine Brothers Coffee
Southern Heritage Coffee Co.
Community Coffee Company, L.L.C.
River Road Coffee, Ltd.
New Orleans Coffee Works
Coffee Roasters of New Orleans
C.E. Colomb Co., LLC
Cane River Road Coffee, Ltd.
New Orleans Coffee Works
Coffee Roasters of New Orleans
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George Howell Coffee Company
Dunkin' Brands
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- · stock (Kraft)
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- · custom printing available (min: 10,000 pcs.)
- · one size fits 10 to 20 oz cup



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	MD Ba	altimore	Eagle Coffee Co. Inc.	410.685.5893	MT	Kalispell	Fieldheads Coffee Company	406.249.5775	NY	Ithaca	gimme! coffee	607.273.0111
	MD Be	ethesda	Arawak Coffee, LLC	301.365.3383	MT	Lolo	Hunter Bay Coffee Roasters, Inc.	406.273.5490	NY	Kingston	Monkey Joe Roasting Co. Inc.	845.331.4598
		rofton	Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company	800.927.6885	MT	Stevensville	Bitterroot Coffee Roaster	406.777.9896	NY	Long Island City	White Coffee Corp.	800.221.0140
		aurel	Orinoco Coffee & Tea, Ltd.	410.312.5292	MT	West Yellowstone	Morning Glory Coffee & Tea inc.	406.646.7061	NY	Long Island City	Fresh Direct	718.928.1195
					MT			800.345.5282				710.320.1133
		lillersville	The Cosmic Bean Coffee Company	410.370.1782		Whitefish	Montana Coffee Traders		NY	Maspeth	Eldorado Coffee Ltd.	718.418.4100
	MD No	ottingham	Keffa Coffee LLC	410.369.8997	NC	Aberdeen	Cactus Creek Coffee Roaster	910.944.1543	NY	Memphis	Shamballa Cafe & Coffee Roasters	315.635.6499 845.639.1664
		ockville	Mayorga Coffee Roasters, Inc.	877.526.3322	NC	Asheville	Bean Werks	828.254.7766	NY	New City	David's Bagels & Coffee Roasters	845.639.1664
	ME Ba	ar Harbor	Benbow's Coffee Roasters	207.288.2552	NC	Asheville	Asheville Coffee Roasters	828.253.5282	NY	New York	Irving Farm Coffee Company	212.206.0707
		runswick	Wicked Joe	207.725.1025	NC	Carrboro	Carrboro Coffee Company	919.968.4760	NY	New York	Nespresso	800.566.0571
	ME Fre	reeport	Freeport Coffee Roasting	207.329.2964	NC	Cary	Kenya Fair Traders	919.771.7907	NY	New York	LavÁzza	800.466.3287
		. Berwick	Carpe Diem Coffee Roasting Co.	207.676.2233	NC	Carv	Mr. Toad's Coffeehouse & Roasters	919.462.3320	NY	New York	Colombian Coffee Federation, Inc.	212.421.8300
		ortland	Coffee By Design, Inc.	207.879.2233	NC	Charlotte	Dilworth Coffee	704.554.7111	NY	New York	Longo Coffee & Tea	212.477.5421
		ockland		207.594.5688	NC		S&D Coffee Inc	800.933.2210	NY	New York	R. P. Coffee Ventures	212.852.7726
			Rock City Coffee Roasters			Concord						
	ME We	/estbrook	The Freaky Bean Coffee Co	877.278.0175	NC	Durham	Counter Culture Coffee, Inc.	888.238.5282	NY	New York	Porto Rico Importing Co.	800.453.5908
		nn Arbor	Zingermans Coffee Roaster	734.929.6060	NC	Durham	Broad Street Coffee Roasters	919.688.5668	NY	New York	Gallo D'Oro Enterprises, Inc	631.246.8035
	MI An	nn Arbor	Amazing Beans Coffee Roasters	734,794,7102	NC	Greensboro	Carolina Coffee Roasting Company	800.457.2556	NY	Newburgh	Hudson Valley Coffee Roasters, Inc.	631.246.8035 888.822.6333
	MI Ba	ay City	The Harvest Coffeehouse & Beanery	989.893.0872	NC	Hampstead	Java Estate Roastery, Inc.	800.573.5282	NY	Niagara Falls	Swissmar International Corp.	877.947.7627
		errien Springs	Tokomak	248.670.4290	NC	Hillsborough	Joe VanGogh	919.644.0111	NY	Oneonta	B. K. Associates International	607.432.1499
		righton	Java Roasters of Brighton	810.844.0085	NC	Raleigh	Stockton Graham & Co.	919.881.8271	NY	Orchard Park	Premium Coffee Roasters, Inc.	716.662.1788
		rooklyn	The Evelyn Bay Coffee Company, Ltd.	800.216.7617	NC	Raleigh	Larry's Beans Inc.	919.828.1234	NY	Ozone Park	Dallis Bros. Coffee	718.845.3010
			Charrens Core		NC NC				NY	Penn Yan	Keuka Lake Coffee Roasters / JAVA-GOURMET	888.478.2739
		armington Hills	Chazzano Corp	248.737.9154		Raleigh	Eighth Sin Coffee Company	919.832.8898				740.040.0000
		ushing	The Coffee Beanery	888.385.2326	NC	Raleigh	Tradewinds Coffee Co., Inc.	800.457.0406	NY	Pittsford	Canaltown Coffee Roasters	716.248.0390
		oodrich	Shadrach, Meshach & ABeanToGo	248.819.7780	NC	Wilmington	Port City Roasting Co.	910.796.6647	NY	Port chester	Todd Good	914.934.1100
	MI Gr	rand Rapids	Schuil Coffee	616.956.6815	NC	Wilmington	Kaldi Gourmet Coffee Roasters	800.221.5368	NY	Port Chester	Empire Coffee Co. Inc.	800.642.7272
	MI Gr	rand Rapids	Beanbin Coffees	616.617.6759	NC	Wilmington	Port City Java Coffee Houses and Roastery	910.251.2552	NY	Port Chester	Waterfront Roasters	800.642.7272 800.690.7230
П		rand Rapids	Ferris Coffee & Nut Co.	616.459.6257	NC	Wilmington	Cape Fear Roasters, LLC	910.254.9277	NY	Red Hook	J.B. Peel Coffee & Tea Company	845.758.1792
		rand Rapids	Fool.of.Beans	616.334.8597	ND	Westhope,	MoJo Roast, Inc.	701.245.8080	NY	Rochester	Spin Caffe Coffee Roasters	585.506.9550
		ackson	Jackson Coffee Co.	517.990.6770	NE	Bellevue	Harvest Roasting	402.932.8856	NY	Syracuse	Cafe Kubal Coffee Roasters	315.278.2812
		alamazoo	Water Street Coffee Joint	269.373.2840	NE	Lincoln	The Mill Coffee and Tea	402.475.5531	NY	Syracuse	Paul De Lima Co., Inc.	315 600 5393
								402.4/0.0001	NY			315.699.5282 914.332.1479
		ake Leelanau	Higher Grounds Trading Co.	877.825.2262	NE	Omaha	Scooter's Coffeehouse	866.863.7266		Tarrytown	Coffee Labs Roasters	514.332.14/9
		ansing	Rudy Baggs Coffee Roasting Co	517.886.3704	NE	Omaha	Midwest Custom Roasting	402.330.6368	NY	Troy	Grafton Hills Coffee Roasters, Inc.	518.686.3336
		ansing	Paramount Coffee Company	800.968.1222	NE	Omaha	LaRue Coffee	800.658.4498	NY	Water Mill	Hampton Coffee Company	631.726.2633
	MI Ma	laple City	Cherry Country Coffee Roasters LLC	231.228.2002	NE	Omaha	Pear's Coffee	402.551.8422	NY	Webster	Joe Bean Coffee Roasters	585.265.4388
	MI Nu	unica	Magnum Coffee Roastery	616.837.0333	NH	Amherst	A&E Custom Coffee Roastery	603.578.3338	NY	Woodside	Shock Coffee	888.337.4625
	MI Ok	kemos	Coffee Barrel	517.349.3888	NH	Canterbury	Granite Ledge Coffee	603.267.9444	NY	Yonkers	Barrie House Coffee & Tea	800.876.2233
	MI PIV	lvmouth	Coffee Express Co.	734,459,4900	NH	Center Tuftonboro	The Black Bear Micro Roastery	603.569.6007	OH	Akron	Susan's Coffee & Tea	800.237.9056
	MI St	tevensville	8th Day Coffee LLC	269.470.1130	NH	Dover	Piscatagua Coffee Roasting Co.	603.740.4200	OH	Akron	Angel Falls Coffee Company	330.376.5282
		turgis	Great Lakes Chocolates & Coffee Co.	269.651.7677	NH	Manchester	Java Tree Gourmet Coffees, Inc.	603.669.7625	ОН	Berea	Red Cedar Coffee Co., LLC	440.260.7509
		OV	Enchantment Coffee	734.945.4037	NH	Strafford	Two Loons Coffee	603.664.5722	OH	Brecksville	Caruso's Coffee	440.546.0901
		psilant	The Ugly Mug Café & Roastery	734.484.4684	NJ	Avon	Coffees and Teas of Yesteryear	732.500.7377	OH	Cincinnati	P&G	513.983.1000
		alled Lake	Java Master	248.669.1060	NJ	Boonton	MG Coffee	973.277.5693	OH	Cincinnati	William Cortner	513.983.4801
					NJ		Carino Coffee	700.040.4070	OII	Cincinnati	Chuckroast Coffee Company	513.470.0594
	MI Wa	/aterford	Beanstro Specialty Coffee Roasters	866.239.1212		Bricktown	Corim Coffee	732.840.1670	OH OH	Cincinnati		513.841.1100
		/estland	Perk & Brew Corp	734.722.0580	NJ	Deptford	Talk N' Coffee	800.597.2326			Coffee Break Roasting Company	513.041.1100
		noka	Paradise Roasters	877.229.6336	NJ	Forked River	Davan Espresso, Inc.	609.693.8822	OH	Cincinnati	The Folger Coffee Company	513.983.1100
	MN Br	rooklyn Center	Roastery 7	877.884.7463	NJ	Hackensack	Oro Caffe'	201.343.1793	OH	Cincinnati	Chix Fon Alley Roasterie	513.541.0481
	MN Bu	uffalo	Custom Roasting, Inc.	763.682.4604	NJ	Hackettstown	Nashville Coffee Company, Inc	908.852.1619	OH	Cincinnati	Luckman Coffee Company Inc	513.231.1040
		uffalo	Asplund Coffee LLC	763.682.6633	NJ	Jersey City	Leodoro Coffee Systems	888.442.6333	OH	Cincinnati	Millstone Coffee, Inc.	513.634.6624
		uluth	Alakef Coffee Roasters, Inc.	218.724.6849	NJ	Jersey City	Kobricks Coffee Co.	201.656.6313	OH	Cleveland	Berardi's Fresh Roast, Inc.	800.876.9109
	MN Le	e Center	European Roasterie, Inc.	507.357.2272	NJ	Lambertville	Rojo's Roastery	609.397.0040	OH	Columbus	Thatchers Coffee Roasters	614.593.3121
		linneapolis	Caribou Coffee Company, Inc.	888.227.4268	NJ	Mavwood	Moon Doggie Coffee Roasters	201.556.0111	OH	Columbus	Crimson Cup Coffee & Tea	888.800.9224
		linneapolis	Bull Run Roasting	952.285.4242	N.I	Mickelton	Crescent Moon Coffee Raosters	856.832.0626	OH	Columbus	Stauf's Coffee Roasters/Cup O' Joe	800 778 2837
		IDIS	B & W Specialty Coffee Co.	800.331.2534	N.J	Millville	Kaffe Magnum Opus, Inc.	800.652.5282	OH OH	Ketterina	The Fine Grind	800.778.2837 937.293.2925
			Midnight Decetory					072 244 2270	OH	Lancaster	Chief Cooker	877.916.6537
		aynesville	Midnight Roastery	320.333.0168	NJ	Newark	The Law Coffee Company	973.344.2270	OH	Lebanon	Seven Hills Coffee Company	513.489.5220
П		aint Cloud	JavaLogica Corp	320.492.5491	NJ	Oakland	Coffee Roasters, Inc.	201.337.8221	OH OH			
П		aint Paul_	White Rock Coffee Roasters	651.699.5448	NJ	Pennsauken	Lacas Coffee Co	856.910.8662	UH	Lebanon	Four Oaks Coffee Co.	859.801.4895
	MN St.	t. Louis Park	Tom Becklund Coffee	952.929.9027	NJ	Skillman	Orpha's Coffee Shop	609.430.2828	OH	Malvern	Rosta's Roast	330.863.1726
		hesterfield	LGC, LLC	314.277.9585	NJ	Stirling	World Of Coffee	908.647.1218	OH	Mechanicsburg	Hemisphere Coffee Roasters	937.834.3007
	MO Ka	ansas City	Parisi Artisan Roasters	816.455.4188	NJ	Titusville	Coffee Bean Direct	888.232.6711	OH	mentor	Java Express Coffee Co.	440.974.5119
		ansas City	The Roasterie, inc.	816.931.4000	NJ	Toms River	Wien & Bald Coffee Farms	848.333.9241	OH	Rockbridge	Hocking Hills Roasters, Inc.	740.994.0454
		ansas City	Broadway Café & Roasting	816.531.2432	NM	Albuquerque	Ronnie Sanchez Account	505.780.1197	ОH	Sylvania	Drake's Fine Coffee Roasting	419.882.0800
		aurie	Omega Coffee Co.	866.855.3267	NM	Albuquerque	Red Rock Roasters	800.873.9793	ОH	Toledo	Flying Rhino Coffee & Chocolate	419.244.6100
		ee's Summit	Dominic Coffee	816.525.9319	NM	Albuquerque	New Mexico Coffee Co.	505.856.5282	OH	Uniontown	Hartville Coffee Roasters	330.877.6501
			Puddin' Head Coffee	816.868.5581	NM		New Mexico Conee Co. New Mexico Pinon Coffee	505.298.1964	OH	Vandalia	Boston Stoker	937.890.6401
		aytown	Opposed Coffee Company	417.831.1492		Albuquerque		505.298.1964 505.532.1042	OH	Wauseon	Red Rambler Coffees	419.335.2000
		pringfield	Oaxacafe Coffee Company		NM	Las Cruces	Milagro Coffee y Espresso, Inc.		OH OH	West Chester	A Coffee Affair L.L.C.	513.759.2200
		t Louis	Tesoros Del Sol	314.570.9659	NM	Santa Fe	Zulu Brew	505.310.0929	OH OH		Queen City Coffee Company	800.487.7460
		t Louis	Mississippi Mud Coffee Roasters	314.369.0432	NM	Santa Fe	Rio Grande Coffee Roasters, Inc	888.989.7380		West Chester		405 000 4570
	MO St.	t. Louis	Ronocco Roasters	800.428.2287	NV	Las Vegas	The Whole Bean	877.536.5662	0K	Oklahoma City	Those Guys Coffee, LLC	405.922.4576 405.232.1223
	MO St.	t. Louis	Chauvin Coffee Corp.	800.455.5282	NV	Las Vegas	Coffee Roasters of Las Vegas	702.435.9338	OK	Oklahoma City	US Roaster Corp./Roasters Exchange	405.232.1223
		t. Louis	Ronnoco Coffee Co.	314.371.5050	NV	Las Vegas	Organic Planet Coffee & Tea	866.814.6728	OK	Oklahoma City	Neighbors Coffee	800.299.9016
	MO St.	t. Louis	Mid-America Coffee	314.422.9201	NV	Las Vegas	Keoki's Donkey Bean Coffee Company	702.216.0982	OK	Oklahoma City	Prima Prima	405.525.0006
	MO St.	t. Louis	Kaldi's Coffee Roasting Co	314.727.9991	NV	Logandale	Red Rock Coffee Roasters	702.354.3298	OR	Albany	Allann Bros. Coffee Co., Inc.	541.812.8000
	MS Ca	anton	The Mississippi Coffee Company	888-600-4811	NV	Reno	Wood-Fire Roasted Coffee Co.	775.856.2033	OR	Ashland	Noble Coffee Roasting	541.326.1382
		aurel	Live Oak Coffee Company	601.323.1636	NV	Reno	Aatron, Inc.	775.850.4600	OR	Baker City	Uncle Bob's Coffee	541.523.2128
		idgeland	Cups an Espresso Cafe	601.832.9788	NV	Reno	Comstock Coffee Roasters	775.337.1006	OR	Bandon	Rayjen Coffee Company	541.347.4065
		illings	Rock Creek Coffee Roasters	406.896.1600	NY	Binghamton	Java Joe's Roasting Co., Inc.	607.348.0444	OR	Central Point	Mellelo Coffee Roasters	541.779.9884
		illings	City Brew Coffee & Cool River Roasters	888.545.4675	NY	Bowmansville	Parkside Coffee	716.681.3078	OR	Estacada	Reedsport Coffeehouse & Roasters	503.630.3024
	MT Bil	illings	Beartooth Coffee Roasters	877.777.5282	NY	Brooklyn	Café La Semeuse	718.387.9696	OR	Eugene	Full City Coffee Roasters	541.344.4829
		ozeman	Rocky Mountain Roasting Co.	800.428.5282	NY	Brooklyn	Gillies Coffee Co.	718.499.7766	OR	Eugene	Viridian Coffee Roasters	541.607.2792
				406.454.8860				718.272.8237	OR	Eugene	Cafe Mam/Royal Blue Organics	888.223.3626
		reat Falls	Cool Beans Coffee Pub		NY	Brooklyn	Hena Coffee		OR	Grants Pass	Rogue River Coffee Co.	541.474.2200
	MT Gr	reat Falls	Morning Light Coffee	800.290.8443	NY	Buffalo	McCullagh Coffee	716.856.3473	On	Grafito Faoo	riogao riivor donos do.	041.777.2200
	MT Gr	reat Falls	Montana Roastery Group Inc.	406.453.8443	NY	Corning	Soul Full Cup	607.936.9030			0	00
L	MT He	elena	FireTower Coffee House & Roasters	406.495.8840	NY	Flushing	Ch Group Corp	718.762.3479			Continued on pa	ige 20
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Aahl Coffee Waterfall Gourmet Beverages Globex America Coffee Eland The Daily Java El Paso Coffee Roasters, LLC Java Nights Rodak's Custom Roasted Coffee Mother Parker's Tea & Coffee Inc. Katz Coffee JavaVoo Pacific Rim Coffee Roasters Motley Brew Coffee Company® Caravan Coffee Oregon Coffee Roaster, Inc. Jolts and juice Company Dark Canyon Coffee Roasters Coffee Bean International Great Coffees of America K&F Select Fine Coffees Nossa Familia Coffee Provenance Hotles Urban Grind Coffeehouse & Roaster Stumptown Coffee Roasters Bridgetown Coffee Roasters Bridgetown Coffee Company Portland Roasting Kobos Coffee Company Boyd Coffee Company Ristretto Roasters Porcelli Roasters Governor's Cup Coffee Roasters MocKenzie River Roasting Tico's Coffee Roasting Co. 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Hacienda San Pedro Whitsunday Gold Coffee Custom House Coffee Roasters Excellent Coffee Roasters Paravisini Coffee Ro Austin Austin Austin Austin Beaumont Brenham Carrollton Cedar Park Dallas 503, 538, 7385 503, 647, 5102 503, 258, 7368 503, 267, 4490 503, 223, 0033 800, 558, 7788 800, 558, 7788 800, 558, 7788 800, 558, 7788 800, 558, 7788 800, 558, 7788 800, 558, 7788 800, 558, 7788 800, 548, 5788 800, 5488 8 Pendleton Portland Springfield Stayton Cedar Park Dallas Dallas Dallas El Paso Euless Fort Worth Fort Worth Houston Houston Houston Houston Houston Houston Houston Houston Reliuland Richland Reliand Relia Katz Coffee JavaVoo Cadeco Industries Inc Red River Roasters Voyava Republic Lola Savannan GP R. Dalton Coffee Co. Jumel Leasing Day Break Coffee Roasters Java Jack's Coffee House Brand J.J.'s Beans victrola Coffee Roasters AAA Liquidating and Auction Service Inc. JC Roaster's Co. 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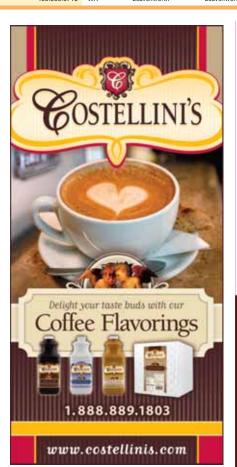




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Private Label Providers ...

Years ago, specialty retailers and other coffee purveyors were somewhat limited in the products they used to make and serve their drinks. They had to utilize whatever products were available to them through local distribution. However, private label products have grown in recent years and coffee retailers now have a wide variety of products that can offer their own label, thereby building their own brand. A brand is your distinction in the marketplace. Numerous manufacturers are assisting small and large coffee operators with private label programs. The evidence is strong that a comprehensive private label strategy can play a role in helping retailers build their businesses and their brands. According to private label industry sources, private label growth has outpaced that of branded competitors the past four out of five years, accounting for more than \$50 billion in sales since 2002. Continued growth is expected to be focused on premium high-quality products positioned against nationally known category leaders.

Retailers in all areas of focus are using private label brands to win the loyalty of their customers, enhance their customer relationships, and strengthen their overall brand. One of the best benefits of a comprehensive private label program is the consistency that is provided to the end user, your customer. Private label products for sale to consumers are a profitable way for already established brands to extend their reach." It all adds up to brand differentiation for your business. Small and medium size coffee retailers can now partner with private label programs to set themselves apart from the other competitors in their market and contribute to sales success.

Perhaps now is the perfect time to create your private label strategy for your business and move one step forward towards building your brand with your existing and new customers.

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NOLA Chicory Coffee News!

By Joan Nielsen

- from the fields

Artisanal Farms, Roasters and Independent Shops

THE SCENE: For most of you who have ever visited New Orleans it is not hard to picture this... vou've been out until the wee hours of the morning listening to the jazz trombone of Delfaevo Marsalis upstairs at Snug Harbor and have decided that before you finally call it a blurry night, you need another shot of classic NOLA tradition. So you head over to... where else? Of course, the Café du Monde for a bracing café au lait and a sugar bomb beignet. It is a cold and drizzling morning under the awnings, but soon enough the waiter brings that steaming cup and sweet snowball, and all is right with the world. Do you mind that the coffee isn't really pure java? No, because after all, this is the city of chicory coffee and when in Rome...

THE HISTORY: All across the genesis of coffee as a popular beverage, additives, adulterants and

substitutes have reared their ugly heads in the brew. You name it and you can make a bet that it's been tried! Almonds, acorns, asparagus, barley, beechnut, beetroot, carrot, chicory root, corn, cottonseed, dandelion root, fig, molasses, okra seed, pea, persimmon seed, potato peel, rye, sassafras pits, sweet potato, wheat $\,$ bran - all these and more that we've thankfully forgotten. But the most accepted, enduring and most popular of these is still the humble chicory root. Harvested from the same chicory plant that gives us the exquisitely bitter salad-enhancing endive, the root is dried, roasted and ground, then added to roasted, "New Orleans Style" coffee. This caffeine-free additive lends body, aroma, a darker color and (some say) mellowness. Fans of chicory even brew it alone or add it to hot milk and use a chicory extract as a flavoring for stews and gravies.

SOME CLIFF NOTES FROM THE PAST: From the American Civil War, where ground roasted chicory root was added to the scant supplies of coffee on both sides of the Mason-Dixon line, to World War II, when coffee was rationed and "Postum" (an instant coffee-type substitute made from wheat bran, wheat, molasses and maltodextrin) was substituted, coffee has a history of being altered, adulterated and just plain obliterated! But the practice hasn't been confined to our shores. There was a scandalous coffee crisis in Europe: the German coffee crisis

of 1976-79. When rising world coffee prices forced Mischkaffee ("mixed coffee" that was 51% coffee and 49% filler including chicory, rye, and sugar beet) onto the German market, it caused that

country's citizens to

boycott coffee en masse! Back to New Orleans, circa 1840. The port of this city was the fourth largest in the world and the second largest importer of coffee in the US. Currently, it shares the number one coffee importer status with New York, with coffee making up to 65% of all tonnage for the Port of New Orleans.

THE PRESENT: Now, you may have wondered, isn't that wonderful cup of coffee I had in the French market (and served in restaurants that range from the elegant Commander's Palace to the Morning Call coffee stand in Metairie) exclusive to my New Orleans experience? Mais non, mon ami! Look for it to reach as far as your local grocery store shelf in San Pedro, California. Why? The

acquisition of the American Coffee Company, producers of the French Market Coffee brand, by Reily Foods Company, one of the larger food brands in the South, is set to complete by the end of this year. These two companies each have venerable histories (and sit only a couple of blocks away from each other). American Coffee was founded in 1890 by the Bartlett and Dodge families - and four generations later, is still family run and famous for it's French Market C&C brand in the red can. Reily was founded in 1902 by William B. Reily, a wholesale grocer with expertise in roasting coffee, from Monroe, LA. Today, under the quidance of William B. Reily III. besides their NOLA roasted CDM Coffee (that's Café du Monde coffee), they sell a pantry-load of goods. Those products include Luzianne Iced Tea, Swan's Down Cake Flour, Carroll Shelbys Chili Kits, Blue Plate Mayonnaise, Old Dutch Salad Dressing, Bean Cuisine Soups, Presto Cake Flour and No Pudge Fat Free Brownie Mix, all produced up in Knoxville, Tennessee, Their powerful distribution system will surely boost sales of chicory coffee!

THE RAISON D'ÊTRE: This

brand merger will get more pots of chicory coffee into homes across the land, to all of us nostalgic coffee fools trying to recreate our own private NOLA coffee experience. Even as we question our judgment in sipping adulterated coffee, we sigh and rationalize that it's a very special acquired taste... to the tune of any Marsalis jazz. ct

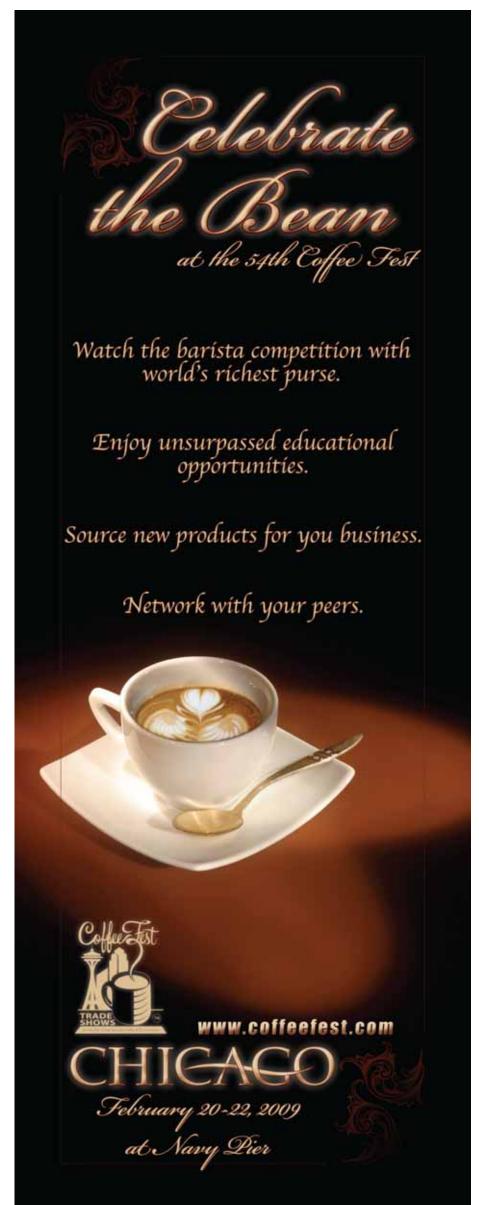








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Smart Marketing

by Lisa Olson

8 Trust-Building Musts to Market With



People buy from people they trust. Trust has been shown to be even more important than price. In these times of much uncertainty, and tight marketing budgets, it's a must to focus on establishing trust with your customers. People are looking to do business with those who earn their trust and make them feel secure. It's not enough to be trustworthy. You need to clearly communicate your trustworthiness to your customers in a sincere and authentic way.

Trust is a frame and state of mind, whether you are the one trusting or you are the trusted. In every company the business of trust starts at the top, with you, the manager and/or business owner. Below is a list of eight mindsets that create trust between you and your customer and will help build your business.

- #1 Friend of the family You must sincerely care about the person in front of you and have a connection with them that opens the door for my next point.
- #2 Customer for life Seeing each customer as a lifetime friend of your business, not just a single transaction.
- #3 Mindfulness –This is being in the moment with your customer, undistracted, with heightened awareness of the customer. Being fully present helps you listen to the customer's needs and connects you with them. People can feel it when you are right there with them. Of all eight, this is the one I find the most difficult to do as it is so easy to become distracted. My trick to being mindful is to "notice." For instance, read the customer's name off their credit card. Look them in the eye and thank them by name as you feel the transfer of the weight of their card as you pass it back to them. Your customer will feel this connection and translate it into trust.

#4 – It's not personal – If a customer behaves grumpy or irritable for no apparent reason, or explodes over something seemingly minor, it's likely that something is going on for them that has nothing to do with you. To build trust, reframe what you are experiencing by reminding yourself that you've done nothing wrong. This will help you tolerate what you have no control over and help you avoid seeing their behavior as a personal assault. Remember that no one trusts someone who is defensive and angry, even if they "started it."

#5 – Collaborative mindset – Think of you and your customers as collaborative problem solvers. The customer has a need and they've come to you for assistance. Approaching every customer interaction as an opportunity to work together for a common goal will build trust. The collaborative mindset will put you both on the same side instead of an opposing buyer-seller relationship. By putting the focus on working together to satisfy their needs, your need for the sale will be satisfied too.

#6 – Transparency – Secrets and our inherent fear of the unknown breaks down trust whether they are perception or realty. Be open and honest. This is particularly important when something goes sideways. If you're out of their favorite syrup don't just tell them, "sorry, we're out." Go back to how you would treat a friend. Likely you would say, "Our supplier had it back ordered and says we will have it in another week," and then suggest an alternative. Which answer builds more trust to you?

#7 – Consistency, persistence and patience – Inconsistent behavior is a red flag for distrust. Your attitudes, actions and words all have to match, every day of the week. Since trust comes in varying degrees and grows with each interaction, persistence and patience are also important parts of the trust equation.

#8 - Smile - There is nothing like a genuine smile to exude competence and build trust. It's virtually impossible to distrust someone who you believe has an authentic smile. Even when I don't feel like smiling, I remember back to what it actually feels like to genuinely smile about something. It's not a mouth thing. It's a whole body experience. It's what some call the practice of, "acting if," and if you do it, you'll actually feel it in short order.

There is a direct correlation between trust and sales. When trust is built, customers will be back to buy from you, and they will also tell their friends.

Trustworthiness isn't about checking one or two things off the list above and calling it good. It's also not about big things as much as it is about a whole bunch of little things. Building trust is about practicing all eight, trust-building habits every day. Customers who feel secure in their trust of you and your products or services are more likely to buy from you, and it won't cost you a dime of your marketing budget. ct

Lisa Olson is the President of Smart Marketing, Inc. Have a marketing question? Submit it to Lisa at lisa@you-r-smart.com.

Writes of Passage Journey to Coffeelands

by Meagan Goodman

Part Two: Asomobi and Living in Community

Once again, I am a passenger on a very sketchy road in the mountains, going way too fast. I am with Don Luis, who works for Deli Café and only speaks Spanish, for 8 hours now. We are in the mountains near Panama and headed to Asomobi, a Women's coffee cooperative in the very south of Costa Rica. I do not know where I am staying, for how long, or what I am supposed to be doing, but I am excited to be heading into the wild where my English skills are useless.

It is dark when we arrive at the small wooden lodge near the top of the mountain. I get out of the car and immediately apply an obscene amount of bug spray. I am absolutely paranoid of getting malaria and being eaten alive by mosquitoes and who knows what else. Don Luis points me toward a very primitive, small, wooden house where I apparently am to spend the night. He tells me he will see me in the morning, and then he disappears into the lodge.

Soon a short, elderly woman named Hortensia, her shy husband Humberto, and her son Victor welcomes me. They led me to a small bedroom where I put my things down and we sat down to eat dinner. The food was incredibly simple but tasty. This was my first real plato typico meal – beans, rice, plantains, potatoes, and fresco – a drink of fruit juice and water. I loved it! (of course Hortensia is an incredible cook, which contributed to the amazing tastes of these very plain and simple foods).

That night I went to sleep with Spanish words buzzing through my head. I could not string sentences together yet but the process had begun. The simple



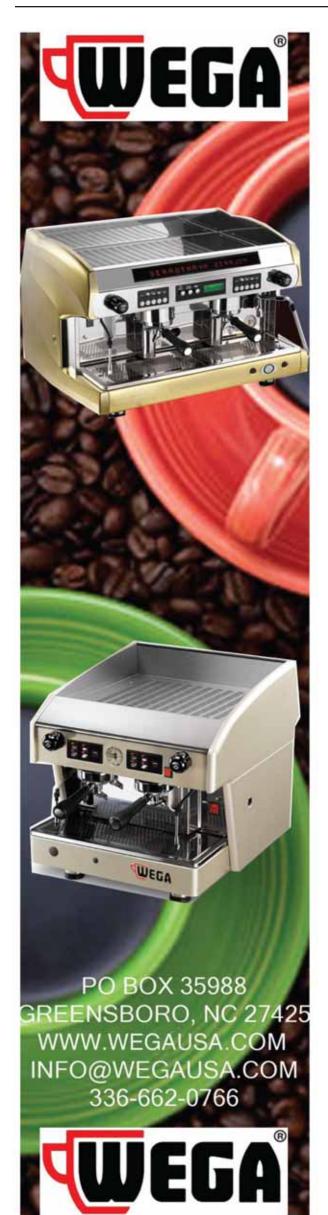
lifestyle of these families and their rich lives is striking. Their lives are shaped by routine – get up with the sun, make breakfast, start cleaning the house, wash the clothes, take care of the children, work all day, come home, share a meal together, and go to sleep shortly after sunset. One night I helped Hortensia make tortillas. I watched as she cut the corn off the cob, ground it up in a hand grinder (by the way this is incredibly labor intensive. I had blisters on my hands afterwards) and hunch over a hot pan to create the best tasting tortillas I have ever had. I was in awe of the strong, but gentle hands that know a hard day's work and the soft touch of a child's smiling face. That night, people came over and we all shared the tortillas, stories, and laughed.

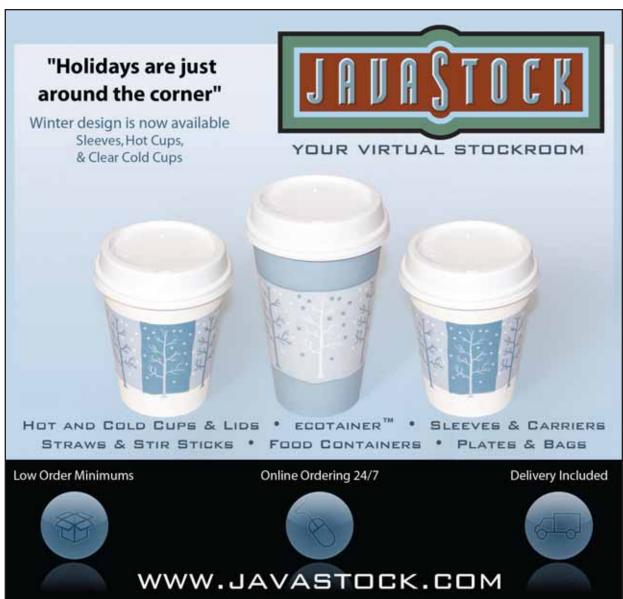
This lifestyle might seem incredibly boring or unsatisfactory to Northern sensibilities. Here, there is a spark of life. It is so different from anything I had ever experienced. Their lifestyle is hard; it is a lot of physical labor and dedication, but the entire community acts as one supportive, appreciative, and content family. It seems that not material items and possessions, but rather the quality of work, family, and a unique relationship with the land, nature, and community define the meaning of life.

I was inspired, but also frustrated, because I could not express my amazement and appreciation to these people living simply together in harmony with the earth and each other. My Spanish skills were not nearly good enough. This inhibited the depth of my relationship with these incredibly real people, but I think we both had a mutual understanding and fascination with each other.

I was still trying to grasp the culture. It took me a while to put all the pieces together. How was life so simple but different here, and I concluded that it was the bonds of community. The whole community was one family, whether blood related or not. They all work hard and support each other. They came together through coffee. All the women help run the small micro-mill, whether they are picking, processing, roasting, or packaging. The men work on the farms, raise livestock, pick coffee, and do much of the manual labor. Their lifestyle is constant work, but they live off the land, raise their own food, and love and support each other through thick and thin. This is something completely new to me. North America is so huge and diverse. Very few communities (this almost borders on a commune) are so tight-knit and held together through intense physical and emotional work. I was starting to get a deeper understanding of the people, of the culture, and of how they were tied together through coffee. All too soon, my time in Asomobi was over, after a brief four days, and I was off to San Isidro de General Perez Zeledon, where I was to meet two incredibly amazing women and their families. ct

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Ultimate Cup™ new tools available now to achieve the **Gold Cup Standard**

If your café or restaurant is not serving coffee brewed to the Gold Cup standard, it is safe to say it is not nearly as good as it could be. As cafes strive to improve the quality of their coffees, restaurants are following suit. They have learned that coffee quality must match food quality. Coffee is the last thing a customer tastes in the dining experience: it is critical to ensure that it's a perfect complement. It has been incredibly difficult to apply the Gold Cup standard in a practical way, until now. ExtractMoJo™ in an intuitive, user friendly Coffee Analytics Software application, bundled with the world's first Coffee Refractometer for quick and accurate measurement of coffee % (total dissolved solids). ExtractMoJo charts the proper brew formula at any desired strength and measured plots the results. Brewer/Grinder settings can be adjusted for water, grind, weight of ground coffee, time, and temperature. The final result is a rich aroma, fullness of body, delicacy of flavor as well as clarity and character-all unique optimally balanced-The Gold Cup standard. For more information call 866 444 5282 or visit http://software.terroircoffee.com/.



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DaVinci Gourmet named "Official Host & Travel Sponsor" for prestigious United **States Barista Competition**



In the battle of the baristas, DaVinci Gourmet has already come out on top. The

industry leader in gourmet syrups has been named the "Official Host & Travel Sponsor" - the premier sponsorship level - for the 2009 United States Barista Competition (USBC). The USBC is scheduled for March 5 through 8, 2009, in Portland, Ore. DaVinci Gourmet previously served as the Platinum & Travel Sponsor for the prestigious tournament. The Official Host & Travel Sponsorship allows DaVinci Gourmet the opportunity to sponsor the 2009 USBC Champion at the 2009 WBC, taking place April 16 though 19 in Atlanta, Ga. For more information visit www.DavinciGourmet.com.

Coffee Company Boyd introduces limited edition 87+ Point Q-Certified Estate Costa Rican Coffee

Boyd Coffee Company introduces Limited Edition Q-Certified Estate Costa Rican, a seasonal single-origin coffee from the Santa Anita Estate near Naranjo in Costa Rica. Harvested from one of the world's premier coffee growing regions, Boyds Q-Certified Estate Costa Rican is 100 percent Rainforest Alliance Certified™, requiring that it was grown using sustainable methods that protect soil and water, conserve biodiversity and ensure proper conditions for workers, their families and communities. The medium roast coffee has a unique piquant and caramelly flavor and is available beginning Sept. 15, in 3.75-ounce and 7-ounce portion packs for foodservice. A 12-ounce retail bag will be available beginning mid-October and will be sold through specialty retail and grocery outlets as well as online www.shop.boyds.com.

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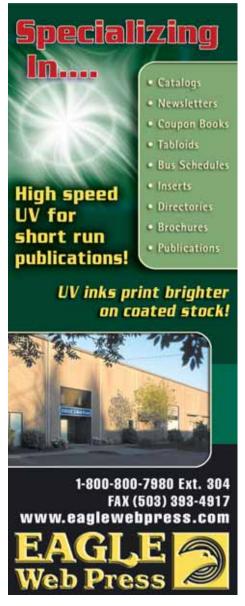
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Big Train's® seasonal drinks arrive for the holiday season

Big Train® is offering two limited-time, seasonal drinks that combine classic holiday flavors such as maple and gingerbread with gourmet coffee or premium tea to create delicious combinations that are guaranteed to delight the palette. These taste temptations are a great holiday indulgence. Whether you want a cozy, hot drink or a frosty, blended drink, both flavors come in a ready-to-blend mix that can be combined with water, milk or coffee to create hot, iced or blended beverages. Celebrate the flavors of the season with Big Trainâ drink mixes, which are available to operators through your local Big Train® distributor or by contacting Big Train® directly at 800-244-8724.





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the best extraction available with a TDS of 1200 and the Hands-On Coffee system becomes the best machine in the industry. Bringing back the COFFEE CULTURE back to where it was meant to be... "A personalized coffee experience". For more information call 800 561 6162 or visit www.avalonbrewer.com.





Cup for Education's mission is to help poor rural coffee communities of Central and Latin America build schools within their communities, and assist in providing them with teachers and the basic tools needed to educate the future generations of coffee farmers.

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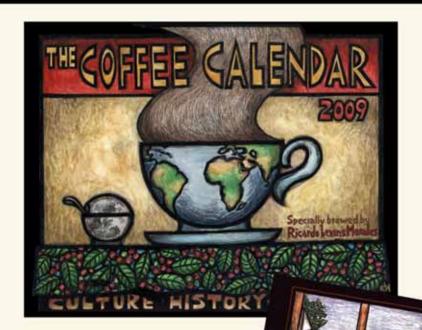
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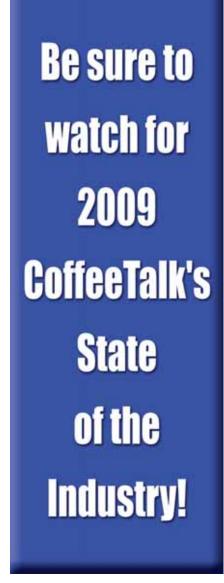
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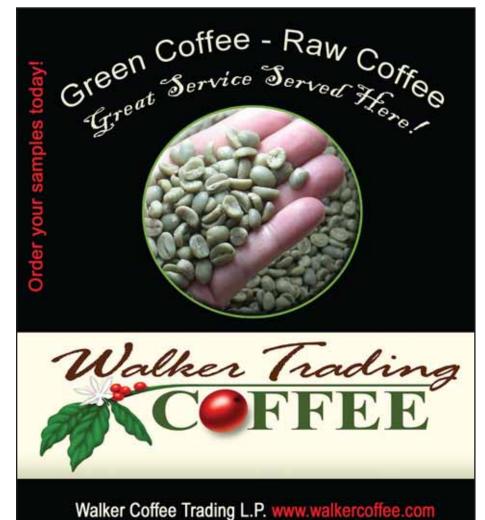
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