

# PHOENIX CAPTIONS

## STÖK COFFEE HAS FRESH NEW LOOK

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## WHITE WAVE FOODS UTILIZES DOUBLE-WALLED DESIGN

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# PHOENIX WINS WCTI CHAIRMAN'S AWARD FOR SAFETY



from left to right: Giles Miller, Alby Miller, Julie Santoy, Rick Ghoston, Ken Bauer, Mike Moore, Edgar Songco

On May 6, 2016, Phoenix Closures' Naperville, IL facility was awarded three safety awards from the WCTI, the Workers Compensation Trust of Illinois. We received the Chairman's Award for Safety, for exceptional safety performance in 2015. Phoenix was honored because the WCTI recognized Naperville's long-term commitment to promoting and providing a safe and healthy work environment: no recordable accidents, no lost time accidents and a 100% score on our safety audits - (MSAP) for several years in a row.

Our Naperville site was also presented with a No Lost Time Safety Award and the Award for Safety Excellence.

The WCTI is a group of safety focused Illinois manufacturers that have pooled their excellent loss experience to self-insure their workers' compensation risk.

Congratulations to everyone involved for these impressive achievements! Safety has always been and continues to be a top priority at Phoenix Closures.

# SKRYPEK & CHEEK WIN SALES AWARDS



Zack Cheek, VP of Sales Tim Ferrel Ken Skrypek, Tim Ferrel

Regional Sales Manager Ken Skrypek has been awarded the Orion award for snagging the largest piece of business for Phoenix in 2015. He was also given a Sandler Star Award for successfully applying our sales methods. Regional Sales Manager Zack Cheek was also given a Sandler Star for his tireless work and achievement. Congrats to Ken and Zack!

# SUCCESSFUL SEDEX/ SMETA AUDIT IN DAVENPORT

Earlier this year, Davenport successfully passed the Sedex (Supplier Ethical Data Exchange)/ SMETA (Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit) audit. The audit is composed of four pillars:

- Labor Standards
- Health and Safety
- Environment
- Business Ethics

This is a very intense audit. A big thanks to all of the employees in our Davenport facility who worked hard to make this process a success. Great work!

# JOY BURDEN RETIREMENT

Senior Warehouse Specialist (Greencastle) Joy Burden has retired from PCI after nearly 50 years of employment. A huge congrats to Joy! We thank you for your many, many years of hard work and wish you the best in your retirement.

# KOHS CELEBRATES 35TH WORK ANNIVERSARY

Corporate QA Clerk Maria Kohs recently celebrated her 35th anniversary at Phoenix. Congrats, Maria, on this huge milestone!

# DOUBLE-WALLED, CARAFE-STYLE CLOSURES VERY POPULAR IN BEVERAGE MARKET

In the past few years, Phoenix has seen an uptick in the requests for double-walled closures, especially in the beverage markets. Our engineering group recently worked on several different packages: Milo's Tea, a 43-mm double-walled closure; and for White Wave Foods, a 40-mm double-walled closure that goes on several different coffee & nut-based milk packages, including Silk Nutchello Almond Milk, So Delicious Almond Milk and Stök Iced Coffee; and also a 38-mm double-walled closure for juice and almond milk packages for Califia Farms.

"Double walled closures incorporate both an inner and outer wall. The inner wall typically is the one that fits the container neck finish, the threaded portion, and the outer is designed specifically to match the desired appearance that complements the shape of the container and ultimately the overall look," says Len Ekkert, Vice President of R & D. This style allows for packages to really stand out in the grocery aisle and appeal to the younger generations, with its sleeker and more modern look.

Because of our successes designing custom packaging (or updating existing designs), customers come to Phoenix to develop their ideas. "Our ability to come up with an assortment of unique and cost effective designs for a customer to choose from, often in less than two weeks, helps to bring confidence of a successful, on-time, on budget completion to the project," says Len.

"I had to drive all night to get to Bessemer, AL in order to get an opportunity to compete for the Milo's Tea project. Dave Anderson, PCI Mechanical/Design Engineer, created a design for me the same day I requested it. Milo's was very impressed with our ability to respond quickly to their needs, as they were on an accelerated timeline to secure a custom closure," says Regional Sales Manager Ken Skrypek. Luckily, Phoenix was able to provide them with a double-walled design that matched their goals.

White Wave Foods is a manufacturer of plant-based beverages and other organic dairy products. The company is very focused on sustainability and is a leader in the health market. Regional Sales Manager Jennifer Wojciechowski had worked with them on a design for a package that didn't end up being a long-term product.

"The closure was originally designed for a product that required a double-walled linerless closure. After that project was terminated, it was resurrected as a lined cap for the current packages. Our engineering team was able to remove resin from the cap to get it to the desired weight," says Jennifer.

Califia Farms has several different juices and almond milk products that use a 38-mm double-walled closure. As the plant-based milk market has skyrocketed in the past few years, they have expanded their offerings to meet the needs of the consumer.

It seems that double-walled closures continue to expand as more companies want to achieve a high-end look and feel for their packages, while maintaining the dependability and functionality of a traditional threaded closure.



Califia Farms Pure Almondmilk



White Wave So Delicious & Silk



White Wave Stök Iced Coffee

# SPOTLIGHT

## ANDERSON NAMED 2015 KOHS SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Phoenix is very excited to announce that Kristine Anderson, daughter of Inside Sales Representative Karen Anderson, has been named the winner of the 2015 Kohs Scholarship! The scholarship is awarded every year to the child of a current Phoenix employee.

Kristine is attending Notre Dame University, and is planning to study Applied Mathematics and Computer Statistics.



Kristine is a graduate of Wheaton North High School and was involved in several different clubs and groups. She was the president of the club Environment Rescue, and a member of the student council, speech team, math team and P.A.W.S. Club. Kristine was also a math and science tutor, freshman academic advisor and 4th grade classroom/library helper.

Her hobbies include jewelry making, reading literature, volunteer work, writing and baking.

Congratulations, Kristine! We at Phoenix wish you the best of luck in college and in all your future endeavors.

## ALL SITES PASS SQF AUDITS

All four of our plants recently passed their SQF re-certifications! SQF, which stands for Safe Quality Food, provides extensive safety control audits for manufacturers of food products and packaging. In addition to the safety component, SQF audits also examine quality.

"The audit consists of roughly 220 questions touching on quality systems and food safety-related aspects of every department in this company," says QA director Rob Zancig. The audit is an annual occurrence at each manufacturing location, including some that are unannounced. This element of surprise means that the plants must be ready and picture perfect at any time to be evaluated.

"[These audits] involve food safety related procedures and processes and impact many departments – not just QA and Manufacturing," says Zancig.

"It is truly outstanding work by all of the plant and corporate staff that make these successes possible," says co-President Giles Miller. Co-president Alby Miller agrees.

"These are the types of events which make us a better company each year," says Alby. Congratulations to everyone involved.



**CAPTIONS**

AUG 2016

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Captions is published by the Marketing Department of Phoenix Closures. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

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