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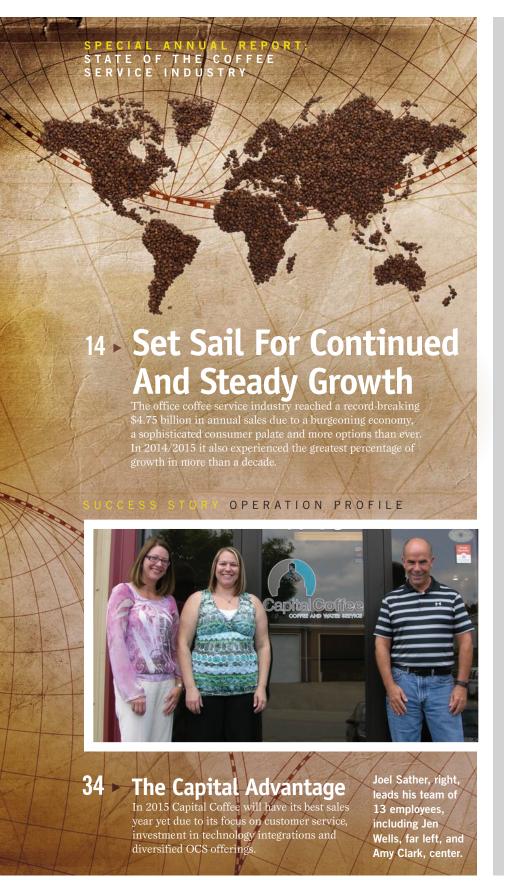
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Contents SEPTEMBER 2015 VOLUME 57, NUMBER 6





FEATURES

26 Focus On The Bigger Picture

OCS has become a misnomer as providers offer much more than just coffee

28 ► Product Roundup

Featuring coffee, tea and water products



32 ► CTW Preview: Learn To Grow At The CTW Show

Chip Potter, NAMA's vice president of communications and information services, gives insight into the industry's premier coffee services event taking place Nov. 2 to 4 in Washington, D.C.

DEPARTMENTS

6 ► Editor's Note

A Tale Of Pantry Service And Micro Markets

- 8 ► VMW News
- 12 ► OCS Update

Should You Offer Cold Brew Coffee?

- 43 ► Marketplace
- 46 ► Route Driver of the Year Quarterly Winner

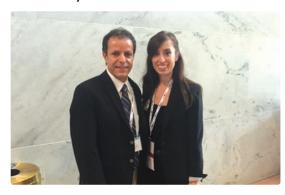
Sean Baughman VendEdge, Roswell, GA



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The Tale Of Pantry Service **And Micro Markets**

How two similar ideas are taking shape differently in today's coffee industry.

he average breakroom is going through an evolution. Automatic merchandisers are transforming into service options that can provide increased product variety to customers, specifically pantry service and micro markets.

At a very basic definition, pantry service and micro markets are very similar. Both provide snacks, food, beverages and assorted

> other items outside the constraints of a vending machine to employees at a workplace. Really, the key difference from a user's perspective is that with a micro market, the employee pays for the items at a self-checkout kiosk, while with pantry service, the company pays. From an operational perspective, both require additional resources for warehouse management of products and delivery scheduling.

However, despite their commonalities, the two services are evolving differently in the industry. When asked about new services office coffee service (OCS) providers added in 2015,

10.5 percent indicated they adopted pantry service and 16.7 percent added micro markets. Full-service operators are more likely than OCS-only operators to operate a micro market. OCS-only providers, on the other hand, reported pantry service as an area of growing potential, with one out of five ranking it the fastest-growing segment over coffee and other services, about 5 percent higher than the overall OCS provider industry.

A division of history

Which service is being more readily adopted appears to have a great deal to do with how the operator defines their operation. If it's an OCSonly provider, then pantry service is often the next step. With pantry service, there is more flexibility with how much an operator wants to invest and ultimately offer to customers. Just adding soda and snacks, for example, requires fewer resources than managing the vast SKUs and data analysis needed by a micro market. Full-service operators already know how to manage a large inventory of products in a warehouse. They also have experience with delivery personnel and are able to understand how they will have to manage a micro market.

The real advantage to either system is that they bring new flexibility to our industry and locations. This flexibility will be important as breakrooms continue to take shape, meeting the need to offer refreshments and necessities to employees with less structured work schedules and spaces. This includes employees who have varied telecommute schedules and non-traditional breakroom designs. This new area needs to include products and services that can double as employee perks so employers are willing to spend more for them. It will be an interesting ride as the industry works to offer a solution outside the proverbial box.



10.5 **PERCENT** of OCS providers adopted pantry service in 2015.

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VendingMarketWatch Top News Stories

Five Star Food Service Announces Three Acquisitions

ive Star Food Service announced it has completed full or partial acquisition of three vending and office coffee service companies in Georgia and Tennessee in less than three months.

In June, Five Star acquired a portion of



Tennessee-based Five Star Food Service made three acquisitions in less than three months.

Hiram, GA-based Elite Vending Co. which included the majority of the business managed inside of a four-county overlap of Five Star's Canteen Vending franchise territory. Elite will continue to operate and serve its metro-Atlanta customers in Fulton, Cobb, Douglas and Clayton counties, where Five Star does not currently operate.

In July, the acquisition of Rome, GA-based Complete Vending included its entire five-route vending and office coffee service operation covering a seven county area. In August, the final and largest of the three acquisitions involved Murfreesboro, TN-based Webb's Refreshments, which sold its complete eight-route vending and micro market business to Five Star. Webb's retained and will continue to operate its office coffee and water service divisions.

This series of acquisitions allows Five Star to consolidate the competitive landscape within its current operating footprint and continue its pace of growth, the company said in a statement.



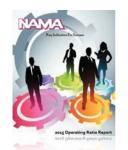
Farmer Bros. Breaks Ground On New Headquarters In Texas

Farmer Bros. Co. broke ground in Northlake, TX, on what will become its new headquarters, state-of-the-art roasting facility, distribution center and coffee lab. The company's move from Torrance, CA, is expected to bring more than 300 jobs to the Northlake region.

NAMA Releases 2015 Annual Operating Ratio Report

NAMA announced that its 2015 Operating Ratio Report, Key Indicators for Success, is now available for purchase on www.vending.org.

Analyzing data gathered from participating NAMA member companies, the study provides key insights into exactly how high-profit firms generate better profit numbers. It focuses intently on three profit drivers—growth, gross margin and expenses. The report shares



clear evidence as to how small differences in those few areas translate directly into higher levels of profitability.

To purchase a digital copy of the Operating Ratio Report, please visit www. vending.org/ORR. The cost is \$225 for members and \$395 for non-members.

Cott Announces The Closing Of Acquisition Of Office Water Delivery Company

Cott Corporation announced that its DS Services Business Unit has closed on its acquisition of Sweet Arrow Springs in central Pennsylvania. Sweet Arrow Springs generated over \$2 million in annual revenues and its customers are now receiving their regular bottled water, office coffee and filtration service directly from a DS Services Route Sales Representative. This acquisition is one of the two asset purchase agreements announced during the second quarter 2015 earnings call.

N&W Global Vending To Introduce 5,000 Smart Vending Machines In The U.S. Next Year

N&W Global Vending will introduce 5,000 smart vending machines across the U.S. in 2016, powered by Intel technology, SlashGear reports. Intel demonstrated the smart vending machines at the 2015 Intel Developer Forum that took place in San Francisco, CA.

Internal cameras in the vending machine can detect demographic details about the machine's user such as gender and age, which is then distributed to the vending machine's operator to let them know who is visiting their machine and what they are buying.

Last May N&W Global Vending was at the Intel booth at the VendItalia International Vending Exhibition in Milan with a preview of the first prototype of a vending machine based on the latest Intel technologies.

Heartland Food Products Group Enters Definitive Agreement To Acquire Splenda® Brand

Heartland Food Products Group announced it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire the Splenda® low calorie sweetener brand from McNeil Nutritionals, LLC, a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. The transaction is expected to close before the end of the year. The financial terms of the transaction have not been disclosed.

SAMSUNG

Samsung To Launch Mobile Payment System In U.S.

Samsung will launch its new mobile payment system, Samsung Pay, in the U.S. on Sept. 28. The announcement was made at the company's Galaxy Unpacked event in New York City.

"It is easy, safe, and most importantly, available virtually anywhere you can swipe a card," said Samsung's mobile business CEO, JK Shin at the event.

Samsung Pay uses a near-field communication (NFC) chip, CNET reports, and LoopPay technology called Magnetic Secure Transmission which turns in-store payment terminals where consumers normally swipe a credit card into contactless readers. Stores, restaurants and other retail outlets require no special equipment to accept payments with LoopPay-enabled smartphones or devices.

Kraft Heinz

Kraft Heinz To Cut 2,500 North American Jobs

▶ The Kraft Heinz Co. began the process of cutting 2,500 jobs across facilities in the U.S. and Canada by laying off 700 employees at the company's corporate headquarters in Northfield, IL. The anticipated job cuts, which took effect immediately, were part of a cost-cutting plan, the Chicago Tribune reports.

The Kraft Heinz Co. announced the completed merger between Kraft and Heinz in July, creating the third-largest food and beverage company in North America and the fifth-largest food and beverage company in the world.

Ten Facts About The Changing American Consumer

In its 2015 US Grocery Shopper Trends report, the Food Marketing Institute (FMI) found that American eating habits are changing. The study revealed that snacks now comprise 50 percent of all eating occasions, with 90 percent of Americans snacking multiple times per day and 48 percent replacing meals with snacks at least three to four times per week.

Other findings include that 7 percent of American households contain vegans or vegetarians and 12 percent of Millennials shop for groceries online. Millennials are also most likely to skip breakfast and consume vegetarian food.

People in the News

David Nute Joins PayRange

PayRange Inc. has appointed David Nute as vice president of operations and finance. Nute was most recently the CFO of RVK, Inc. "We're fortunate to have Dave bring his operations, finance and start-up experience to PayRange," said Paresh Patel, PayRange CEO.



Mr. Coffee Creator Dies At 91

Vincent Marotta, a creator of the Mr. Coffee machine, died at the age of 91 on Aug. 1. Marotta began the Mr. Coffee company in 1972 with his business partner Samuel Glazer and subsequently created one of the first automatic drip coffee makers for home use. "Mr. Coffee became a market leader almost immediately," The New York Times wrote. Marotta was born on Feb. 22, 1924.

USA Technologies Appoints J. Duncan Smith As CFO

USA Technologies, Inc. announced the appointment of J. Duncan Smith, CPA, as chief financial officer, effective Aug. 31, 2015. Smith succeeds David M. DeMedio who transitioned to the newly created position of chief services officer (CSO) after having made significant contributions to the company as its CFO since 2005. DeMedio will work closely with Smith to ensure a seamless transition.

The Coca-Cola Co. Names New President, Chief Operating Officer

The Coca-Cola Co. announced that James Quincey has been named president and chief operating officer (COO), effective immediately. As president and COO, Quincey will have responsibility for all of the company's operating units worldwide. He will report directly to Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Muhtar Kent.

ConAgra Foods Names Darren Serrao Chief Growth Officer

ConAgra Foods, Inc. announced Darren
Serrao has been appointed to the new position of chief growth officer Aug. 17, 2015.
Serrao will report to the chief executive officer,
Sean Connolly. As chief growth officer, Serrao will lead the Growth Center of Excellence at ConAgra
Foods that includes insights, innovation, research and development and marketing.



CAVC Provides Input On New Micro Market Guidelines

AMA announced that Los Angeles County, CA, recently released a new set of micro market guidelines, a document that is the result of a collaborative effort by the California Automatic Vending Council (CAVC), NAMA's Sandra Larson and the L.A. County Environmental Health Department.

"With the micro market concept rapidly



CAVC and L.A. County health officials have been working together on industry issues since 2011.

expanding, CAVC members welcomed the opportunity to collaborate with county officials in establishing food safety standards that protect consumers and allow operators to grow their businesses," said NAMA Senior Director of Government Affairs Sandra Larson. "A positive working relationship was forged from information-sharing, operator site visits and several meetings, resulting in a set of guidelines both our members and the department are pleased with. We are thankful for the opportunity to work together on this, and hope to continue this valuable relationship in the future." Since 2011, CAVC and L.A. County health officials have been working together on industry issues including vending permits and most recently on the micro market guidelines.

A link to the L.A. County Micro Market Guidelines can be found at www.nama-voice.org/state-issues/micro-markets.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCT. 8 CVA Golf Outing Copper Hill Golf Club East Granby, CT Phone: 860-242-9689 www.vending.org

OCT. 15-17 CAMA Expo 2015 The Scotiabank Convention Centre Niagara Falls, ON Phone: 888-849-2262 www.vending-cama.com OCT. 28-30 NCA Coffee Summit 2015 JW Marriott Austin Austin, TX Phone: 212-766-4007 www.ncausa.org

NOV. 2-4
CoffeeTea&Water Show
Gaylord National Resort &
Convention Center
Washington, D.C.
Phone: 312-346-0370
www.coffeeteaandwater.org

Keurig Green Mountain Reports Third Quarter 2015 Results

► Keurig Green Mountain, Inc. announced its business results for the 13 weeks ended June 27, 2015.

Net sales of \$970 million decreased 5 percent versus the prior year period with declines in brewer sales and pod sales. Foreign currency exchange rates negatively impacted sales by approximately 1.5 percentage points.

Total pod net sales declined 1 percent in

this quarter while brewers and accessories net sales declined 26 percent. Other product net sales declined 12 percent compared to the prior year period.

USConnect®, Route 66® Coffees Partner With Life In Green

premium coffee service, Route 66°, is pleased to announce its new partnership with Life in Green packaging



and accessories. Route 66 is partnering with Life in Green to provide cups and accessories with the smallest possible environmental footprint. Life in Green was founded in 2009 as a distributor of compostable and bio-degradable disposable food service products.

PFG Announces Georgia Food Distribution Facility Expansion

Performance Food Group, Inc. (PFG) announced plans to expand its Performance Foodservice — Milton's food distribution facility in Oakwood. GA.

The expansion project will include construction of a new 174,000-square foot building to be built on 43 acres adjacent to the current operation at 3501 Old Oakwood Road. The new building will feature a freezer, meat cutting operation, maintenance areas and space for fleet operations. The project is scheduled for completion in 2016 to be followed by the conversion of the existing freezer into a three-zone cooler section.



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Should You Offer Cold Brew Coffee?

Cold brew is heating up coffee sales during the warm season, but operators need to consider how to lengthen shelf-life and ensure consistent taste if they want to add it to their OCS product line.

By Emily Refermat, Editor

old brew continues to be a popular drink among consumers. At retail coffee shops, cold brew has been a way to slow the seasonal decline brought on by warm weather. Peet's Coffee & Tea, one of the nation's biggest coffee chains, claims cold brew beat last year's iced coffee sales by as much as 70 percent. Even equipment supplier BUNN is talking about cold brew sales, citing research that overall cold brew coffee consumption has increased 5 percent over the last two years and is now 20 percent of non-hot coffee orders at coffeehouses.

It has made its entrance into office coffee service (OCS) as well with kegs being delivered to offices across the U.S. In this year's SOCI, 25 percent of respondents indicated that cold brew was part of their OCS line up of products and services.

While cold brew is a trendy offering, there are some considerations with preparing and handling this type of drink on a large scale. Truebrew Outfitters, an OCS and vending company in the Chicago, IL, area, has been offering cold brew for more than a year and developed an internal process of delivering it to customers. According to the company's chief operating officer Jim Carbone, the first concern about cold brew is pasteurization. Homemade and locally made cold brew will typically last seven to 10 days. A roaster working with brewers with coffee in pony kegs can generally stretch the shelf life of cold brew upwards to around 30 days. With the addition of pasteurization of the coffee, the expiration date is around 90 days.

Cold temperatures are a must

Another consideration is maintaining a constant, cool temperature during storage and delivery, indicated Carbone. If the cold brew gets warm, it can have a bitter or sour taste.

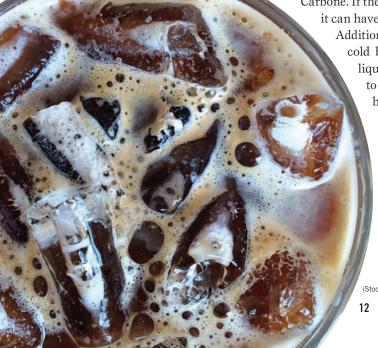
Additionally, if a nitro infused cold brew gets warm, the liquid and nitrogen begin to separate and the nitro brew loses its creamy, smooth texture.

The idea of adding nitro to cold brew is an even more recent trend that produces a chocolatey-creamy smooth beverage. Actually, all kegged cold brew is pressurized with nitrogen, says Carbone. All cold brew whether regular, single origin or nitro is pushed with nitrogen to force the liquid out of the keg. The difference with nitrogen infused coffee, sometimes called nitro brew, is that it is infused with nitrogen prior to being pressurized in the keg. When the nitro brew is poured into the glass you can see the nitrogen and liquid separate causing a beautiful cascade. This is best seen in a wine glass. The nitro brew also requires an aerating tap faucet. This is the faucet that has a long black piece where the liquid is dispensed. The purpose of this faucet is to cause the liquid to pass through at a higher rate to help create the creamy top.

Large batches need professional prep

The last consideration is consistency. There are lots of variables that go into a batch of cold brew coffee. The grind, steep and dilution percentages all affect the taste. According to Carbone, it takes professional and scientific attention to detail and process to ensure a uniform product with a taste the customer can count on.

Cold brew: A coffee drink made by steeping ground coffee beans in room-temperature water for between 12-24 hours. It is usually served black in a glass (with or without ice) or nitrogen-infused from a keg. Cold brew can also be an ingredient in iced coffee beverages.





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SET SAIL For Continued And SIGNATURE SIGNATURE

By Emily Refermat, Editor

The office coffee service industry reached a record-breaking \$4.75 billion in annual sales due to a burgeoning economy, a sophisticated consumer palate and more options than ever. In 2014/2015 it also experienced the greatest percentage of growth in more than a decade.

t has been a tremendous growth year for office coffee service (OCS). In the second half of 2014 and the start of 2015, OCS revenues showed a jump of 5.5 percent over the previous year — a greater percentage of growth than in past years, including those preceding the Great Recession. The gain illustrates the opportunities in OCS, steered by economic factors motivating companies to provide quality coffee service to an expanding workforce. The record-breaking \$4.75 billion OCS industry is also being fed by coffee drinkers' discerning tastes, an array of single-cup brewer options and expanding into new services.

Green in beans and banks

Green coffee prices have been dropping since the end of 2014. The most recent International Coffee Organization (ICO) data, as of press time, cited a price of 199.77 cents per pound for the month of July. Recordbreaking exports from coffee-producing countries is resulting in this price drop. However, the ICO also warns that overall stock levels are waning, which could leave the industry vul-

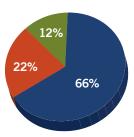
nerable to a rapid surge in price in the coming months.

Regardless of the uncertain future of green coffee prices, the drop in base price of this commodity has given operators a chance at better profit margins, which helps them cover costs in other areas of their businesses as well as expand into new services. A very large percentage, 82.5 percent of operators, reported increasing prices this year — quite a bit more than in the past two years. However, few of those increases were in coffee. Instead, operators felt the most pressure to raise prices in allied product areas. From paper goods to snacks and soda, the supplier cost increases in those categories drove the higher prices OCS providers needed to charge to protect profits.

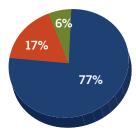
The rise in costs for non-coffee products is especially relevant for today's OCS provider as that segment of the industry has steadily increased for the past few years. In 2015, we expanded the range of possible answers for operators to choose when talking about strategies for dealing with increasing costs and 9.2 percent indicated they most often added additional services to bolster

CHART 2: OPERATOR SALES CHANGE, 4-YEAR REVIEW

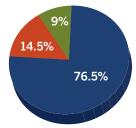
- SALES ROSE SALES DECLINED
- NO CHANGE



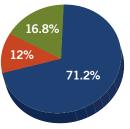
2010/11



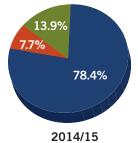
2011/12



2012/13

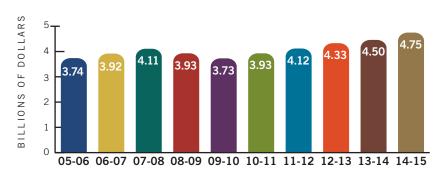


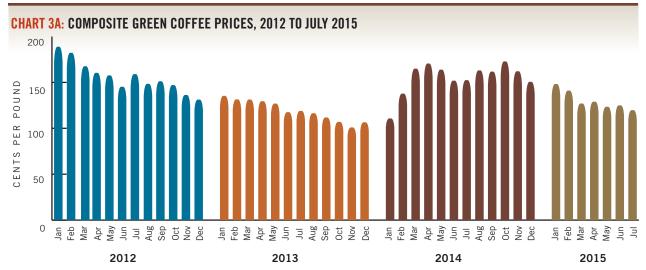
2013/14



THE gain in revenues illustrates the opportunities in OCS.

CHART 1: OCS REVENUES — 10-YEAR HISTORY



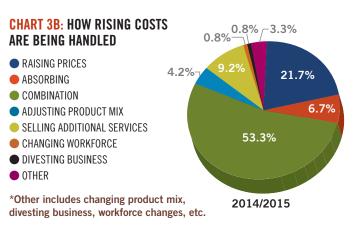


Source: International Coffee Organization, London, U.K.

their bottom line (chart 3B). Among the new services added by OCS providers were micro markets, added by 16.7 percent of respondents. More than half, 63.4 percent, of operators that provide OCS are operating one or more micro markets. In fact, micro markets were the most frequently added service, with water service and pantry service being close second and third options with 14.0 percent and 10.5 percent respectively.

New services divide market share

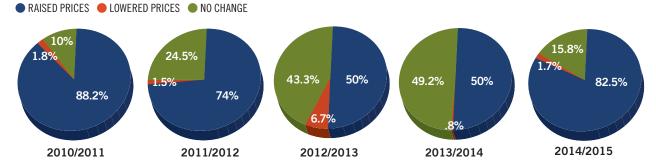
The addition of non-coffee products and services makes up a substantial percentage of the OCS industry revenues. Pantry service — commonly



defined as delivering snacks, soda and other products to a location that employees enjoy freely while the workplace is invoiced for the items — has grown substantially. For example, revenues associated with providing snacks and soda to locations have quadrupled (chart 5). Tea and water services have also added considerably to OCS revenues.

OPERATOR PRICING ACTIVITY

CHART 4A: OPERATOR PRICING ACTIVITY, 5-YEAR REVIEW





WOLFGANG PUCK COFFEE ANNOUNCES... COMPOSTABLE POD FILM & RECYCLABLE REALCUP™ CAPSULES

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EcoCup™ Capsule - compatible
with all Keurig Brewing Equipment!





Wolfgang Puck Coffee is committed to doing their part in creating a cleaner environment for future generations. In addition to the launch of our new sustainable single-cup offerings, our premium roasting plant is bullfrog powered by renewable energy resources.





Adding new services was motivated by operators wanting to be proactive, a majority of respondents explained, rather than due to customer requests/market pressure. Most operators cited that they wanted to maximize their revenue-generating opportunities and/or wanted to stay at the leading edge of the industry.

Due to the growth in non-coffee, the levels of revenue generated by coffee in chart 5 appear to be slipping. Because total sales is out of 100 percent, the extreme decline in private label and national brands should be viewed more as evidence of product and service diversification, rather than a true decrease in interest for these segments of coffee. Indeed, demand remains very strong for both private label and national brands. Private label was rated the top-selling OCS product for the past 12 months by 27.3 percent of OCS operators (chart 5B). Clearly, locations are still asking for a value blend coffee from service providers. National coffee brands were top sellers for 24.7 percent of OCS providers showing a continued demand for consistent quality coffee with a nationally known name.

Drip is out, single-cup is in

Single-cup continues to grow. While the placement of single-cup brewers, which includes all models of countertop brew-by-the-cup equipment, has seen only a modest increase -23.2 percent, up from 22.3 percent - the number of requests for singlecup service options has skyrocketed. Operators talked about dramatically different requests from locations seeking OCS than in previous years because everyone wants their customized coffee. In fact, most new customers ask about the single-cup and bean-to-cup options first, even if it is not the brewer ultimately placed.

In its latest *National Coffee Drinking Trends Report*, the National Cof-

CHART 4B: REVENUE PER CUP IN CENTS PER CUP, FRACTION PACK PLUMBED IN/POUROVER COFFEE. 5-YEAR REVIEW

	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015
Revenue	10.8¢	11.7¢	11.8¢	12¢	12.4¢

^{*}Previous numbers have been adjusted based on additional data

CHART 4C: REVENUE PER CUP, SINGLE-CUP COFFEE, 5-YEAR REVIEW

	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015
Revenue	42.5¢	41.8¢	43.1¢	44.9¢	45.5¢

^{*}Previous numbers have been adjusted based on additional data

CHART 5A: % OCS SALES BY PRODUCT CATEGORY, 5-YEAR REVIEW

			, -		
	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15
Private label coffee	28.1%	28.2%	18.2%	21.8%	12.7%
Local coffee brands				12.5	8.5%
National brand coffee	26.9	28.1	24.4	21.9	12.1%
Value frac packs				3.5	5.4%
Whole bean coffee					4.7%
Espresso/cappuccino	3.6	3.7	5.4	1.9	4.3%
K-cups				7.9	7.4%
Other single-cup				6.0	5.2%
Other coffee*	12.1	9.9	17.4	4.8	6.0%
Total Coffee	70.7	69.9	65.4	80.2	66.4%
Other hot beverages	4.9	5.5	6.4	4	3.3%
Soft drinks/juices	5.4	5.7	6.6	1.8	4.5%
Bottled/filtered water	5.7	4.8	7.3	3.9	5.3%
Creamers/sweeteners	5.6	6.6	6.5	5.2	4.5%
Cups/paper products	5.4	6.2	6.5	4.5	3.8%
Теа					3.6%
Water Service					4.9%
Other	2.3	1.3	1.9	0.4	3.6%

^{*}Includes flavored and varietal.

CHART 5B: TOP-SELLING OCS PRODUCT FOR PAST 12 MONTHS

	2014/2015
Local coffee brands	13.0%
Private label	27.3%
Value frac packs	2.6%
Specialty drinks	1.3%
Whole bean	5.2%
National brand coffees	24.7%
K-Cups	16.9%
Single-cup	5.2%
Tea	0.0%
Water	0.0%
Other	3.9%

PRIVATE

label coffee was rated the top-selling product by over 25% of OCS providers.

CHART 6: PLUMBED-IN, AUTOMATIC AND THERMAL AS % OF TOTAL, 5-YEAR REVIEW

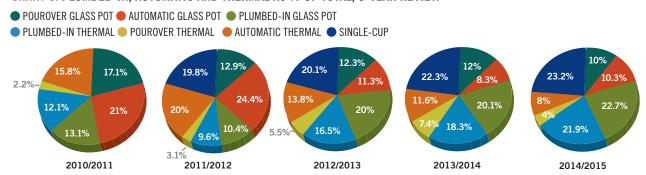


CHART 7: ESTIMATED MARKET SHARE OF SINGLE-CUP BREWER PLACEMENTS IN THE U.S., 5-YEAR REVIEW % Change 2010/11 2011/12 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 MARKETER PRODUCT(S) **Bodecker Brewed** 0.3% 2.5% 2.5% Bodecker 0.2% 0.4% 0% **BUNN** Single serve pod brewers 1.6 2 0.4 Cafection Avalon 3.3 3.2 4.1 3.9 2 6.4 Cafejo Cafejo 2.2 2.4 2.4 0.0 0.1 0.1 **Technologies Coffea** Coffea 0.3 Crane Café System, Genesis 1.1 1 1.3 0.3 5.2 4.9 De Jung Duke Virtu 8.0 1.2 0.4 **Filterfresh** Filterfresh 1.7 1.4 4.7 2.9 1.2 -1.7 1.2 1.4 0.9 Grindmaster Grindmaster 6.0 0.1 1 JM Smucker's Douwe Egberts 2.9 Keurig 43.0 46.2 46.2 39.6 30.0 -9.6 Keurig Gevalia, Tassimo Professional 3.9 5.9 Kraft 0.7 8.0 2.9 9.8 Lavazza Espresso Point, Lavazza Blue 2.0 1.7 2.1 0.4 5.3 4.9 Mars Drinks 37.5 -20.7 Mars Drinks (Flavia) 31.8 30.1 23.4 16.8 Newco Smartcup, Freshcup, CX-3 1.7 4.3 0.3 0.4 2.2 2.6 Rheavendors Rhea, Cino 0.4 0.3 0.1 0 0 0 Saeco USA 0.0 0.5 Saeco, Estro 2.2 2.0 0.6 0.5 2.7 Starbucks Starbucks 8.0 8.0 1.6 2.6 0.1 Technologies Coffea 0.3 Coffea 0.2 0.2 0.0 0.0 0.3 Brio, Colibri, Cypris, Juno, **VE Global Solutions** 1.9 3 1.9 1.6 0.1 4.9 Koro, Korinto, Kinvivo, Prosy, Venus VKI Technologies Eccellenza Express, Eccellenza 1.2 1.2 Touch, Eccellenza Cafe Wolfgang Puck 0.2 0.3 0.3 0.2 Wolfgang Puck 0.3 0.1

*Represents OCS provider placements only

Other

fee Association (NCA) indicated that 34 percent of consumers consider a single-cup brewer to be the preferred coffee preparation method at work, followed by ground coffee with 29 percent. The variety of coffee options available with single-cup as well as it being a fast and convenient option are driving this perception, accord-

ing to NCA data. The report also suggests the consumer understands that single-cup isn't a low cost option. This would suggest that the location would be more open to paying the higher single-cup prices when asking for this type of coffee service.

0.3

0.2

8.0

This spike in single-cup requests from locations reflects the evolving

coffee preference of today's consumer. Words like *fresh, greater variety, premium* and *specialty* were listed by operators as key reasons for the current trends in coffee service locations. Much of today's new single-cup equipment meets these needs. Cartridgestyle solutions ensure quality control and offer a location a broad variety.

1.1

8.0

0.3

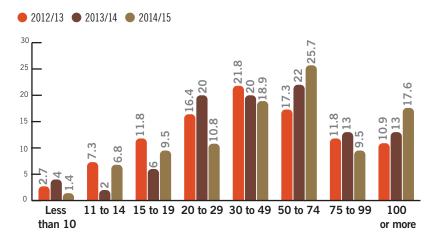
Access to local or premium noncartridge roasts, however, is better met with a bean-to-cup machine.

Successful operators in the single-cup segments report holding sampling events, offering local roasts not available in cartridge-style single-cup, providing greater hot beverage variety in one machine, being a one-stop for all service (not just coffee) and placing high-end, sophisticated equipment.

Single-cup was rated as the fastest-growing category of OCS while traditional coffee and water service were ranked second and third fastest-growing, respectively. Although single-cup is a fast growing segment, operators rank it second in overall contributions to revenues to traditional coffee which is the clear leader. The challenge with single-cup is making a good margin. Widely available cartridge-style cups can be expensive for operators, making the prices they charge look high compared to online and office supply retailers.

The bean-to-cup systems are sophisticated brewers that require

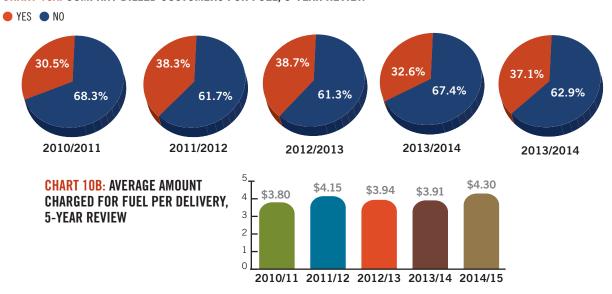
CHART 8: ACCOUNT POPULATIONS BY SIZE



	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Offices	55.4%	55.8%	48.8%	45.0%	47.4%
Industrial plants	18.5	18.7	15.1	17.3	17.1
Restaurants, delis, bakeries	6.2	4.5	6.3	7.3	8.5
Convenience stores	3.5	5.2	7.2	8.3	4.7
Government/military	1.5	3.3	5.4	3.5	3.3
Schools/colleges	4.8	3.8	5.2	5.4	6.7
Retail outlets	1.4	1.9	2.11	2.7	5.8
Other (Health care/hotels)	7.6	6.9	10.1	10.5	6.5

FUEL CHARGE ACTIVITY

CHART 10A: COMPANY BILLED CUSTOMERS FOR FUEL, 5-YEAR REVIEW







It's the real Joe"

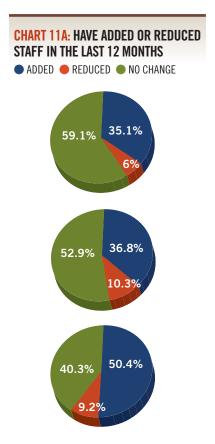
To learn more about Martinson® Premium Coffee and our full line of **RealCup® Capsules Office Coffee and Tea Solutions**, contact Mother Parkers Tea and Coffee at 1-800-387-9398.

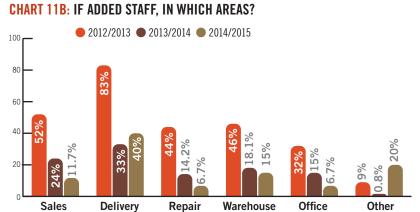
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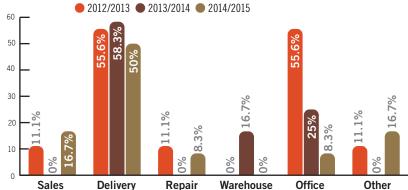












regular cleaning and maintenance to ensure the high performance for which they're known. Operators must factor in this added service commitment when determining a price for clients. Both of these issues are causing single-cup service not to boom in OCS — at least steadily across the country. Most operators, however, are recognizing it as a viable solution that fits the needs and requests of many locations.

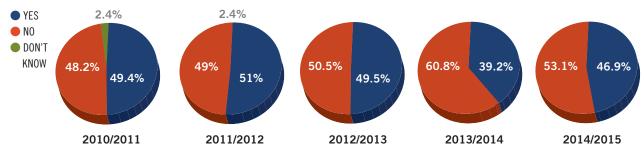
Coffee perception increases opportunities

The number of locations served by OCS providers increased in 2014 to 2015. Much of this was due to consolidation in the industry, but based on operator comments, a majority was from marketing and sales efforts made by management. Many altered the way their company solicited new business. More resources were dedicated to marketing, including

new company Websites that include better SEO (search engine optimization) making it easier for customers to find them/their service when searching online. Websites were also enhanced with online ordering features, which drove sales (chart 13).

Locations identified by size also saw a change this year, said operators (chart 8). Smaller workplaces grew into larger ones, driving up the percentage of 11 to 9 person accounts







Vistar is the perfect distributor for you and your business. We carry all the top selling coffees and teas plus an extensive selection of national and regional brands including; Folgers, Peet's Coffee & Tea, Cafe Classics, Starbucks, Grindstone, Maxwell House, Twinings and Mars Drinks.

And not only do we have the best brands in the coffee and tea segment, we also offer a variety of other essentials:

- Non-food items
- Sugars and creamers
- Cups, lids, napkins, straws and plates
- Cleaning supplies, equipment and disposables

Vistar also stocks everything for your growing pantry business! Including a great selection of better-for-you snacks. Just ask your Vistar Representative for details about our Good To Go program.

















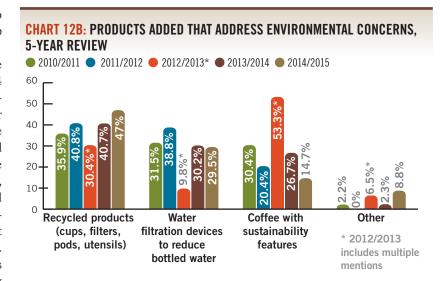




served. The 100 plus locations also showed a substantial gain driving up same location sales revenues.

Office locations still lead the OCS marketplace, comprising 47.4 percent of revenues for OCS providers (chart 9). That is higher than in previous years, likely due to the gains in the economy and expanding workforces in white collar America. Since July 2015, 27,000 professional and technical service jobs have been added equaling more than 300,000 over the past 12 months, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics. This pushes the coffee service industry upwards for that segment.

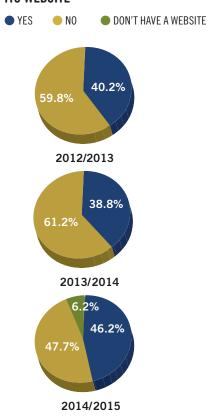
For the remaining location types, most stayed relatively steady, such as industrial plants which made up 17.1 percent of business, compared to last year's 17.3 percent. Conve-

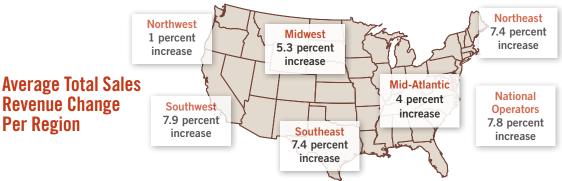


nience store service saw the most severe drop of 3.6 percentage points with operators moving towards other retail outlets instead, which saw an increase of 3.1. According to NCA drinking trend data, consumers tend to rank quality low on the list when expressing why they buy coffee at a convenience store. This perception could be a contributing factor to the decline in OCS providers servicing convenience stores.



CHART 13: COMPANY CURRENTLY OFFERS ONLINE ORDERING ON ITS WEBSITE





Final thoughts

While few of the charts in this report show technology use, it's important to point out that its prevalence is increasing in OCS as well as other industry segments like vending. Operators are investing in OCS software. In 2015, 35.9 percent indicated that they use an industry-specific software system and 4.7 percent use the same system for both OCS and vending. Adding a software system usually produces a more efficient and cost-effective operation, driving up profitability.

Competitive pressures — from coffeehouses and office supply companies, for example — are the greatest challenges for OCS. OCS providers are able to compete by dedicating sales resources and building sales models with value-added amenities. This focus, coupled with meeting the needs of consumers who pine for customized, quality coffee, will keep OCS on course.

Methodology

The Automatic Merchandiser
State of the Coffee Service Industry Report is compiled from a survey sent to OCS operators, as well as operator interviews.
The 2015 report is based on a 5.5 percent response rate to the survey and includes full-service vending operators who offer OCS as well as operators who only provide coffee service.



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- Low Maintenance Requirements
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Focus On The Bigger Picture

By Emily Refermat, Editor

OCS has become a misnomer as providers offer much more than just coffee.

CS is a steady growth area. However, one thing many operators forget is that OCS doesn't have to mean just coffee. Sometimes, the largest OCS accounts, per revenue, drink very little coffee. What is making up the rest? A large portion is

pantry service. The remainder could be anything.

Offering the extraordinary

Pantry service is a lucrative add-on to OCS. It is simply defined as charging a location for delivery of coffee



and other items, such as food, that is served freely to the employees at the location. Really, the delivered items could be anything.

"Strawberries. Mayonnaise. Pickles. You name it, they want it. They want it now," said Chuck Walton, managing partner at Ace Vending Inc. in Tempe, AZ, during the 2015 OCS Thought Leaders' Breakfast sponsored by Smucker's Foodservice. "It's employee retention," Walton added. And it works. Walton decided to test it in his own company. His warehouse

workers wanted a raise. Instead, he built them a pantry. "Now they can make their own sandwiches. They didn't get a raise, but are happy because they are eating for free," said Walton.

"In the pantry business, coffee only represents 14 to 15 percent of our total OCS volume," said Scott Berman, vice president of refreshment services at Canteen. "The young people aren't drinking coffee. They are drinking iced tea, or iced tea combinations, specialty beverages, non GMO, healthy, grown right, etc." This has been one of the drivers to the Canteen pantry service. Berman has noticed that in competitive job markets, companies must provide free, high-quality food and beverages, because along with pay and insurance, edible perks are on a job candidate's checklist before accepting.

Becoming a distributor on wheels

There are many operators in the OCS segment who are beginning to see themselves differently, according to Chip Potter, vice president of communications and information services at NAMA.

"Some operators are seeing television advertising of the office product companies actually in a breakroom. These operators are nervous the office product companies will start advertising about refreshment products. It's causing them to think twice about their own businesses. 'Do I need to step back and change the lens of what business I'm in? I have a truck and it's on the road visiting these accounts. What should I put into that truck that is really going to

Strawberries.

Mayonnaise.

Pickles. You

name it, they

want it. They

want it now.

Chuck Walton, managing partner at Ace Vending Inc.

lock a customer in for me?" said Potter. This is where pantry, and other supplies, such as paper towels, cleaners and even printer paper might be an option for the operator to offer.

"We do whatever we can at this point," said Kevin Searcy with Golden Brew Beverage and deORO Markets. "There's so much competition out there, there are so many different specialties...these different companies, they only sell this or they only sell that. We sell everything." While this is a focus for Searcy, he sees even more potential out there and is often limited by what will fit on his truck. "We've tried really hard over the last few years to maximize our trucks and with the prekitting and stuff that we've done, there is now more room for add-ons. That's made a huge difference," said Searcy.

To expand OCS, to grow revenues, it's worth putting a different lens in front of your business. OCS isn't just coffee, but pantry service, office products and anything else that can grow incremental, same-location sales.

There are so many different specialties...they only sell this or they only sell that. We sell everything.

Kevin Searcy, Golden Brew Beverage and deORO Markets

PRODUCT ROUNDUP





Total Lite

CAFECTION ENTERPRISES INC.

The Total Lite is the sleekest bean to cup coffee machine from Innovation Series. It offers the advantages and quality of a Cafection coffee machine with less space requirements! As an Innovation Series brewer, the Total Lite can be managed remotely with Cafection's Management Tool PRO. Thanks to a high performance cellular connection, this application simplifies your life and helps you reduce your bottom line expenses through a high technology system. Energy saving schedule, ingredients levels indicator, email warnings and notifications, online ordering and much more! Every aspect of our secure Web-based application will help you save time and energy.

VendingMarketWatch.com/12106787

Extra Strength Peach Mango Flavored 5-hour ENERGY® Shots

LIVING ESSENTIALS

Living Essentials, LLC announces that its new peach mango flavored Extra Strength 5-hour ENERGY® shot is available to order now. The new flavor joins strawberry watermelon, sour apple, grape and berry to become the fifth extra strength variety of the popular energy shot, which also has six regular strength flavors as well as decaf.

To order peach mango flavored Extra Strength 5-hour EN-ERGY® contact your distributor or a 5-hour ENERGY® sales representative at 866-960-1700. The ship date is Nov. 2.

VendingMarketWatch.com/12107825





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Folgers® delivers the Total Package. Our ready-to-brew filter packs provide ultimate convenience and consistent quality without the extra effort. Each pre-measured coffee and round filter-in-one brew one delicious, flavorful pot of coffee — no measuring involved or mess of loose grounds. Learn more about how Folgers Filter Packs can work for your office.

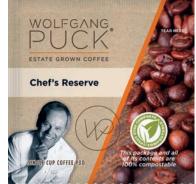
VendingMarketWatch.com/12103797

Wolfgang Puck Coffee Announces Compostable Pod Packaging

WOLFGANG PUCK COFFEE

Launching Fall 2015 — Wolfgang Puck Coffee is committed to doing our part to create a cleaner environment for future generations. We are excited to announce that our WP Coffee Pod Film will now be 100% compostable! Additionally our premium roasting plant is bullfrogpowered™ by renewable energy resources. Raise your cup to living WELL!









Sure Tamp[™] – A Fresh Canvas For Beverage Innovation

BUNN-O-MATIC CORP.

A profitable espresso beverage program that delights your customers requires equipment that is embraced by staff, safe to use, intuitive, consistent and easily maintained. BUNN Espress® Sure Tamp™ is your fresh, new canvas for successful beverage innovation and execution.

We dedicated our best engineering and materials knowledge in designing our exclusive Sure Tamp process. It uses a patent pending process for milk delivery with a knife blade of steam injected into the chamber, delivering both hot and cold foam.

Picture Prompted Cleaning™ displays high resolution photograph tutorials on a large 7" touchscreen to guide the operator step-by-step through cleaning techniques.

VendingMarketWatch.com/12106766

Cafejo Caramel Creme Single Serve Cups

CAFEJO

Cafejo Caramel Creme Single Serve Cups are slightly sweet caramel taste with a clean and mellow finish. (Also available in decaf) Cafejo single serve cups are packaged in a 99+% Nitrogen environment to ensure freshness. Each brew delivers a wonderfully flavorful cup of aromatic coffee. No old-fashioned bleached paper filters here. Cafejo's single-serve technology uses a tightly woven Micro-Fabric filter, which ensures the perfect extraction of your coffee without the unwanted partials and sludge in your cup. Cafejo has been on an incredible journey to find, blend and brew the best ingredients in the world. Our unique blends deliver an exceptionally smooth, rich never bitter taste — cup after cup. Whether you choose our bold French Roast, delicate Green Tea, or rich Hot Chocolate...Cafejo

has a world of choices to satisfy everyone's tastes.



PRODUCT ROUNDUP

Nestlé Waters North America Portfolio

NESTLÉ WATERS NORTH AMERICA

Nestlé Waters North America is a leading branded bottled water company in America with a portfolio that includes top brands like the number one ranked bottled water brand Nestlé® Pure Life® purified water, market leading spring water brands and imported brands and ready to drink iced teas.

VendingMarketWatch.com/12107254







Follett Corp. 15 Series Ice, Water Dispenser

FOLLETT CORP.

The new 15 Series ice and water dispenser delivers customer-preferred Chewblet® nugget ice in a compact, drainless design that fits in spaces where other ice makers can't go. The 15 Series is available in both countertop and freestanding models, holds 15 lbs of ice, and makes 125 lbs per day. The sanitary, capacitive touch dispensing feature eliminates direct contact with ice.



PRODUCT ROUNDUP



PRACISCOS FRANCISCOS FRANCISCOS FRANCISCOS FRENCH ROAST F

Don Francisco's Family Reserve® Portion Packs

DON FRANCISCO'S COFFEE

Each Don Francisco's Family Reserve® coffee is carefully roasted to reveal its unique flavor, aroma and overall taste to ensure you'll get a rich and flavorful cup every time.

Our 2.5 oz. portion packs are perfect for your office break room or anywhere you brew potted coffee!

Contact us today for details and to request a sample!

VendingMarketWatch.com/12106773

Tulu Premium Iced Tea

CADILLAC COFFEE CO.

Tulu Tea was inspired by the burning sands of China's northern desert and the Silk Road oasis known as Tulufan desert, where ancient traders quenched the thirst of history. Fast forward to a time when the journey may not be as long but the sun burns brighter than ever — and a thirst for adventure endures. Whatever your destination, whether it be a front porch in Tennessee or the finest restaurant in Detroit, Cadillac Coffee Company is proud to offer Tulu Premium Iced Tea as your everyday companion on the road to timeless refreshment.



Learn To Grow At The CT



Chip Potter, vice president of communications and information services at NAMA, gives insight into the premier coffee services event taking place Nov. 2 to 4 in Washington, D.C.

AM: Chip, can you give readers a brief insight on what to expect at this year's CTW?

CP: CTW remains the premier, go-to event for the coffee services industry. Folks have the opportunity to participate in meaningful education

sessions that cut across all aspects of coffee, tea and water, as well as sessions to help operators improve their profitability and make better strategic decisions. There is ample networking time to meet with colleagues and make new connections, and to learn about the latest products and services. The interaction among attendees is unlike any event in our industry.

AM: What educational programs can attendees look forward to?

CP: We have sessions dedicated to improving sales success by promoting added-value services, creating product bundles and improving the way operators evaluate new business opportunities.

We have a special session around the "State of Coffee Services," with roundtables where participants create new ideas to leverage the latest trends into action plans. We have personal and business development sessions, such as best practices in operations, using social media to promote your business and how rewards programs can be implemented for success.

Lastly, we have a special session for business owners looking to transition their business to family members or other partners.

AM: How might the event's location impact CTW activities and turnout?

CP: Our location city this year – Washington, D.C. – provides unique and



exciting opportunities for our industry to network and we invite attendees to visit with their elected officials while they're here. We also encourage attendees to check out the many independent coffee shops in the area, or to just enjoy the many attractions of being in our nation's capital.

AM: Many readers go to CTW to view the newest trends in OCS. Is there one trend attendees can expect to see?

CP: Operators are eager to promote specialty beverages in their offerings, and to introduce alternative beverages such as water and tea to their customers. In our QCCP program, we will also review cold brewing as a way to create something exciting with customers. Cold brew is an exciting trend that is ready to expand in our industry.

CTW leadership is hard at work making 2015's show one to remember.

1

W Show



AM: On Tuesday, Nov. 3, Women in the Industry (WIN) will be hosting a 4k (2.5 mile) walk/run. Can you give more details on this inaugural event?

CP: The 4k is going to be great! For some of us, it will truly be a "race" but for others, it's a good opportunity to connect with old and new colleagues, to have a refreshing exercise to kick off the day and to do something healthy for yourself. A percentage of the proceeds will go towards the NAMA Foundation to benefit the Fit-Pick® program. Runners and walkers can register by Oct. 15 at http://www.coffeeteaandwater.org/attend/fun-run-walk.



For more information on how to register for this year's CTW and to stay up-to-date on the event's offerings, visit www.coffeeteaandwater.org.

MONDAY, NOV. 2 7:00am - 7:00pm: Registration Open

7:00am - 5:00pm: Coffee's On!

7:30am - 12 Noon:

QCCP Brewing Technologies *Separate registration fee required Speaker: Mike Tompkins, Coffee Products Associates

8:30am - 12:15pm: TechTalks

1:00pm - 2:45pm:

Opening General Session: Driving Growth through Innovation Keynote speaker: Seth Goldman, Honest Tea

3:00pm - 4:00pm:

Education Sessions: Internet Coffee Service – Opportunity or Adversary? Speakers: Ken Shea, G & J; Kirby Newbury, DiscountCoffee.com

The State of Water in the OCS Industry -Today and Beyond Speaker: Robin Householder, Crystal Coolers

The Hows and Whys of Implementing a Loyalty Program Speaker: Dr. Mike McCall,

Michigan State University

4:15pm - 5:15pm:

Education Sessions: Sell the Sizzle: Beat the Competition by Delivering Service and an Experience Moderator: Mike Tompkins, Coffee Products Associates

Panelists: Linda Salanda, Southern Refreshments Services; Paul Tullio, Gourmet Coffee Service; Timothy Bielaski, Royal Cup Coffee



Don't miss the W.I.N. 4K Fun Run/Walk.

Sustainability and Social Responsibility Speaker: John Turenne, Sustainable Food Systems

Promote Your OCS Business through Digital & Social Media Speaker: John Healy, Healy Consulting Communications

5:30pm - 7:00pm: CTW/IBWA Welcome Reception

TUESDAY, NOV. 3 6:30am - 8:00am:

WIN Fun Run/Walk
7:00am - 6:00pm:

Registration Open 7:00am - 12 Noon:

Coffee's On!

7:30am - 12 Noon: QCCP Coffee Fundamentals Speaker: Mike Tompkins, Coffee Products Associates

9:00am - 12:15pm:

Bubbles, Blends and Brews: The State of OCS Speakers: Mike Dabadie, Heart+Mind Strategies; Chris Stevens, Mendoza College of Business at University of Notre Dame

12:30pm - 6:30 pm: Trade Show Hours

12:30pm - 2:00 pm: Attendees Lunch in Exhibit Hall

5:30pm - 6:30pm: Reception in Exhibit Hall

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 4 7:00am - 12 Noon:

Registration Open

7:00am - 12 Noon: Coffee's On

9:00am - 9:45am:

Education Sessions House in Order: Prepare Your Business for Sale or Ownership Transition Speaker: John Salaterio, Consolidated Services Group

Which Single Cup Technology is Right for You? Speaker: Dave Carroll, Southern Refreshment Services

Improve Customer Relations with Generational Understanding Speaker: Carla Variglotti, The Cuyahoga Group

10:00am - 11:00am:

Education Sessions As the Market Heats Up: How to Position Yourself Against the Competition Moderator: Scott Berman, Canteen Refreshment Services

Panelists: Dan Ragan, Pod Pack International; Tom Steuber, Associated Services

Create a Plan to Manage Your Company through Disaster Moderator: Tara Burnaman, DS Services of America

Manage Your Time to Drive Business Growth Speaker: Patrick McMullan, Three Square Market, TurnKey Corrections, American Institutional Supply

11:15am - 12:15pm:

Closing Session: Tea Time with Stephen Twining Speaker: Stephen Twining, Twinings

*The schedule of events is subject to change



The Capital Advantage

By Adrienne Zimmer, Managing Editor

In 2015 Capital Coffee will have its best sales year yet due to its focus on customer service, investment in technology integrations and diversified OCS offerings.

ffice coffee service is a competitive and volatile business. That is why customer service is king at Capital Coffee. Fostering client relationships and maintaining superior service are two main components McFarland, WI-based Capital Coffee employs in order to stay several steps ahead of would-be competitors.

Joel Sather, president of Capital Coffee, ensures that his employees are experts on every piece of equipment that is placed with a customer and guarantees a site visit every 28 days.

Capital Coffee has grown organically through referrals and door-to-door sales calls. In 2015 the company will have the highest sales in its more than 20-year history and a nine percent growth over 2014. Despite its success, the company takes nothing for granted. "Our team works each day knowing that our biggest client could fire us at any moment, and that our smallest client could one day grow to be our largest," said Sather, "and that pushes our team to work even harder."

A natural salesman

When Sather graduated college with a degree in journalism, he immediately got what he considered a dream job working in radio. As the years went on, however, Sather found that radio didn't offer him the challenge his personality craved. "One day my brother-in-law called me up and told me that he had been exploring the



Capital Coffee's mobile app sets it apart.

coffee industry and suggested that we go into it together," said Sather. "I brushed him off but began doing some research." Eight months later in 1996, Sather quit his radio job and became a Filterfresh franchisee in partnership with his brother-in-law.

The company started off with three employees: Sather, a general manager and a route driver. Sather bought 16 single-cup machines, which totaled around \$45,000. "It was every penny I owned, plus some, and so I would look at those machines and just say, 'It's time to get to work." Sather, a natural salesman, went door-to-door the first day and landed six accounts.

That success continued. In its first five years of business the company doubled sales every year. "You hear things about not wanting to grow too fast but I think we just hit the market at the right time," he said.

In 2013, Capital Coffee left the Filterfresh franchise and changed its company name. That same year, Sather also purchased full ownership of the company. "We liked being a franchise and were always appreciative of the help we had in the begin-



Capital Coffee finds efficiencies in its transportation. The company has transitioned to diesel sprinter vans, which are more expensive upfront but cost less in the long run.

ning, but it was time that we branched out on our own," said Sather. The company developed a detailed transition and rebranding plan letting their clients know several weeks in advance of the change. "We didn't lose a single customer."

Today the company operates in a 250 mile radius and services hundreds of car dealerships, apartment buildings, offices, healthcare facilities such as hospitals and even some foodservice locations and country clubs throughout much of Wisconsin, from Madison to Milwaukee, Janesville to Green Bay and one Minnesota location.

Not in the price battle

Transparency with clients is a key focus for Capital Coffee. The company has only increased prices three times in the last 20 years, and generally that has been due to manufacturer price increases. In each instance Capital Coffee has communicated with customers in advance to let them know about the price change. "Generally no one has had an issue with this, as they understand the ebb and flow of business," said Sather.

Capital Coffee has been successful retaining its customers by selling on quality first while maintaining a competitive price. The company believes in giving con-





Jen Wells, general manager, plays an important role in the company's continued growth and success.

sumers a total coffee experience from high-tech brewer equipment to gourmet hot beverages. Potential customers who are more concerned with price than taste are not always the best fit for Capital Coffee.

It even shies away from private label — because it believes that roasters generally place their best coffee on their own label — and liquid coffee because it doesn't result in the same high-quality product Sather's customers have come to expect.

Instead, Capital Coffee offers a majority of the national brands and a handful of local roasters including Steep and Brew, Ancora, and Stone Creek through bean-to-cup, batch brew and single-cup brewers. Although local brands are more expensive than national brands, they are competitive, and Sather has found that some customers prefer to offer a local favorite. Canada-based brand Van Houtte, however, is Capital Coffee's top-selling coffee.

Capital Coffee has seen consumer coffee and hot beverage expectations increase over the years, including this one. "I can tell that the economy is picking up because I have more locations asking for Starbucks, which is a sign that consumers are willing to spend more," Sather said. This is a good sign for the company that focuses on introducing quality, high-tech brewers to customers.

The future of OCS

Sather believes high-tech brewers are the future of OCS. He points to a brand new, sleek VKI Eccellenza Touch brewer. "This is the future of OCS, I guarantee it," he said. The Eccellenza Touch, a bean-to-cup brewer, is equipped with a high-definition, user-friendly 10.1-inch touchscreen and offers more than sixty different hot beverage options. Sather has had this particular machine on display and for use in his office for the last few months, testing the machine before it is placed with a customer. "We always test equipment before we give it to a customer because we need to be the experts on the way the machines function," said Sather, who recently signed a contract with a



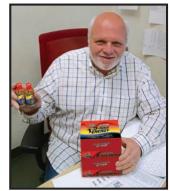
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car dealership to place one machine in each of the company's dealerships.

Alongside the Eccellenza models, Capital Coffee also offers other single-cup brewers including Starbucks' Interactive Cup Brewer, The Café Mio Brewing System, Keurig, BUNN, Bloomfield, Avalon and Flavia. A personal favorite has been VKI's Suprema, which Sather calls a "work horse." Capital Coffee will only place brewers that it believes offer an integrated consumer experience. This includes offering gourmet beverages such as cappuccinos, lattes and mochas, as well as a 21st century design, which can include touchscreens. "I can't fake it," said Sather. "If I don't like a machine, I won't put it with my customers, simple as that."

Each year Capital Coffee purchases between \$100,000 and \$150,000 in coffee brewer equipment

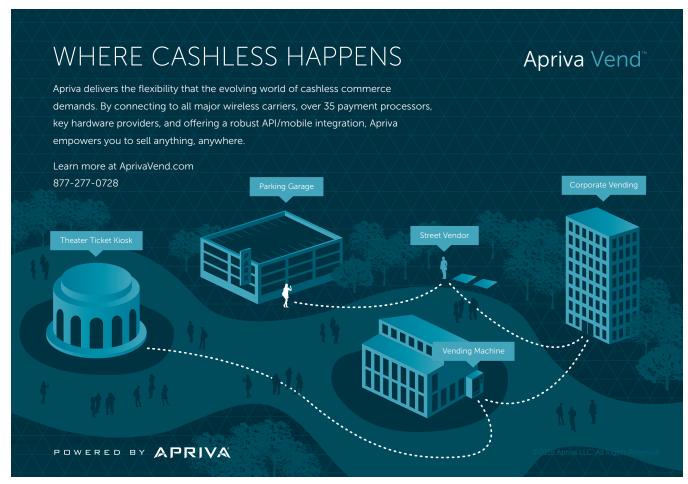
Lessons From Vending

In the early 2000s, a Capital Coffee client asked Sather if he would be willing to service vending, as well as coffee, and so Sather obliged. Within a small amount of time Sather had 20 vending accounts and found himself spending hours filling machines and less time on coffee. "My phone rang constantly about problems with the machines," said Sather. "With vending, you have to go all in and you need to do the volume to make it worth it and I knew I was never going to be big into vending," he said. After one year, Sather decided to sell his vending routes.

"We really wanted to focus on what we do best, and that is coffee," he said.

and spends around \$5,000 per month on parts. Sather notes it takes about two years to get back a return on some of his more high-tech machines.

Millennials and even Generation Z consumers motivate Capital Coffee to provide machines on the cutting edge of technology. "I have a daughter who is 11 and these young people, they want the good stuff," said Sather, who attends NAMA each year in order to stay with the most current trends in technology and coffee. "I always want to see what my competition sees. This year I was happy that I was already familiar with all



of the OCS brewers that were at the OneShow," he said.

Single-cup, bean-to-cup reign

When it comes to trends, Capital Coffee takes a cautious approach. When the company first heard of single-cup in the late 1990s, it took a little bit for them to be convinced that it was something consumers would enjoy. "I'm glad I got in when I did," said Sather of single-cup. "We started doing single-cup before single-cup was popular."

Twenty years ago Sather remembers having to explain single-cup to his clients. Today, it's vice versa, where his clients are asking him for single-cup coffee options.

In fact, 60 percent of the company's coffee sales are single-cup, including bean-to-cup, and 40 percent are batch brew.

Sather has found that not only does the coffee taste better with beanto-cup machines, but the profit margins are better, too. "You don't have to charge as much," he said.

In fact, Capital Coffee recently transformed the coffee experience for the University of Wisconsin-Madison Camp Randall football stadium and the Kohl Center arena by replacing liquid coffee with dozens of VKI bean-to-cup machines stocked with Van Houtte coffee.

Capital Coffee has seen an increase in its whole bean inventory, as well, due to the growth of bean-to-cup machines.

More recently Sather has read about the cold brew coffee trend but is not yet convinced. "I'd have to try it first, but in my area I'm not sure that would catch on and I haven't had customers asking for it," he said.

Internal technology advances

Capital Coffee provides a technologically-advanced experience for its clients both through its equipment and through its Website. In 2009, the company started an online ordering service, created by OCS Access. At first customers weren't keen paying with their credit cards online, but today that's not an issue. About 65 percent of Capital Coffee sales come from direct online purchases through its ordering system.

An email is triggered to the customer to let them know that it's time to make a new order and if they don't respond in a day's time, another email is triggered. "It's so efficient because our route drivers don't have to take extra product with them and because the customer can also let us know exactly what they want and if they will be needing more product for, say,



The company re-orders product every five weeks in order to maintain organization and efficiency in its warehouse.

a big event they have coming up that week," said Sather. "With new customers today we tell them, 'Online is the way we do it."

Last year Sather also had a local business create an app for his company that acts as a sales tool. It allows Sather to take his iPad into meetings and show a potential customer exactly what products Capital Coffee offers. "After meetings I can write up a proposal from my car and send it from the parking lot," he said. Sather believes the app is another advantage his team has over the competition. "If a customer wants something, you find a way to get it to them, and you find a way fast."

Accessory items

Capital Coffee also offers more than just coffee. The company introduced an online-ordering pantry service — which it calls accessory item offerings — a few years ago and sells soft drinks, juice, candy, snacks and water supplies. The company will even deliver items personally requested by individuals. This extra offering makes up 20 to 25 percent of Capital Coffee's revenue.

Capital Coffee's dedication to its customer resides in the belief that it should always give the customer what they want. In 2015 a local car dealership marked its 50th anniversary and asked the company if it would be able to incorporate the event into the coffee service in any way. Capital Coffee took up the challenge and worked with a local designer to create coffee cups with the dealership's logo and a 50th anniversary "congratulations" sign on the side.

Diverse growth segments

Another growth segment Sather has seen is water service. Capital Coffee offers the Water Logic WL250, which is a point-of-use water filtering system that uses UV technology to reduce bacterial growth. Both Sather and his clients like that about the product. "In my experience this product

Operation Profile: Capital Coffee

Headquarters: McFarland (Madison), WI

Owner: Joel Sather

No. of employees: 13

No. of routes: 5

Annual sales: Not revealed

saves customers money and is also "green," which they like," he said. Sather avoids placing bottled coolers, which he says can be cumbersome.

The iced and hot tea segments have also been solid growth areas for Capital Coffee. China Mist and Stash tea are two brands that have always sold well in Wisconsin, says Sather, who witnessed high tea sales even before the tea segment began growing in other regions.

Over the last ten years Sather has also seen an increase in the amount of fair trade and organic coffees he has placed. "We have to re-order fair trade and organic coffee every five weeks."

Growth as a family

No matter how much emphasis Sather places on customer service, he recognizes that success starts internally. Sather considers his 13 employees part of his family and treats them as such. Capital Coffee offers employees paid time off, health coverage, 401k and dental. Many Capital Coffee employees have been with the company for more than four years and others have been there for more than 10. "Our employees stick with us because we pay them fairly and treat them like the assets they are," said Sather.

Capital Coffee's view of the future of OCS is well-founded optimism. In fact, the biggest challenge Capital Coffee faces is not other competition; it's hard water. Sather says that hard water can ruin brewers and takes away from original coffee taste. To mitigate this concern, Capital Coffee changes the water filters on all of its brewers every six months.

It is this same type of care and dedication to offering the best service and product possible that gives Capital Coffee an advantage. The opportunities ahead for the company are endless, says Sather. "Our company already has a 20-year history and we have so much more to do."



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Sean Baughman

VendEdge, Roswell, GA

Baughman has been a VendEdge route driver for 17 years.

Baughman's dependability and work ethic allow him to manage his own satellite warehouse.

By Adrienne Zimmer, Managing Editor

SEAN BAUGHMAN wears

many hats. To those at VendEdge, located in Roswell, GA, he is a colleague and route driver; to his congregation he is a bi-vocational pastor; to others he is the manager and operator of a successful dog kennel company; and to his nine children he is "dad." Regardless of his many roles, Baughman is known to all as "friend."

Baughman, the 2015 Route Driver of the Year Third Ouarter winner, began running routes for VendEdge 17 years ago. "Sean has been with us and seen the highs, lows and everything in between of the industry for nearly two decades," said Sandy Thornton, managing partner at VendEdge. "Throughout all of the years, he has proven himself to be hardworking, flexible, resilient, dependable, responsible, concerned, thoughtful and any number of other qualities that make up an outstanding route driver."

People person

When he is on route, Baughman is always focused on his customers, who are his first priority. "His customers love him," exclaimed Thornton. Baughman listens and responds to customer needs by providing the snacks that they crave. He even repairs his own equipment so his customers don't have to suffer

⁶⁶There is no one more dependable, loyal and dedicated to the job. ⁹⁹

because of a malfunction. Thornton is grateful for Baughman's dependability, good attitude and work ethic. In fact, VendEdge executives gave Baughman the responsibility of managing his own satellite warehouse two hours north of the company's headquarters. Baughman places his own orders, manages his customers' needs and takes responsibility for his day-to-day duties, with minimal support from the main office.

"When he does visit our main office once a week, colleagues gather around to hear a story or two of some vending antics that happened ten years ago or find out the latest on the Baughman kids," said Thornton. "Sean is truly one of the best storytellers you could ever hope to meet. And with nearly two decades in this industry, he certainly has some stories that can't be beat."

Rise to the challenge

Baughman's nearly 20-year history in vending also means that he has seen a multitude of changes, particularly in technology. When VendEdge transitioned from paper tickets to EasiTrax, Baughman remained hardworking and flexible.

When the company more recently introduced Cantaloupe Systems and added micro markets, Baughman embraced the innovation. "He made all of the transitions with ease and has always been willing to accept the changes other drivers find difficult," said Thornton.

"There is no one more dependable, no one more loyal and no one more dedicated to the job as Sean," Thornton concluded. "He is truly deserving of this honor."



Route Driver of the Year quarterly winners are awarded \$250 and are entrants for the final Route Driver of the Year award presented at the NAMA OneShow in 2016. Nominees are given a score based on experience, customer satisfaction and nominator comments. The award is sponsored by Mondelez International and *Automatic Merchandiser*.

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