



news

An International Association of Confectioners

For Immediate Release:
June 5, 2006

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PMCA Prepares for its Centennial Celebration

(Lehigh Valley, PA)---PMCA - an International Association of Confectioners, announced its centennial theme and unveiled the centennial logo at its annual meeting of members on May 2 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

In 1907, twenty-four executives from confectionery manufacturing companies formed PMCA in an effort to provide an open forum for the free exchange of information and to promote basic and applied scientific research. Today, PMCA is a world leader in bringing technical research, education and information to the confectionery and related industries. "In the early years, basic issues were discussed and investigations were made into the nature of shelf-life problems like fat bloom," said Adrian Timms, president of PMCA. "Manufacturing techniques have advanced greatly over the years. Now we have predictive models of fat migration to extend shelf life, and are sharing information that improves the nutritional value of confections for a healthy lifestyle," Timms added.

PMCA membership has grown internationally to approximately 400 member companies. "We have made it our policy to treat all members equally; whether they run a multi-million dollar manufacturing plant or a small retail shop, they have access to the same shared information, services and benefits. This ethical equality has been one of the core values of our association," said Peter Blommer, chairman of the board of PMCA.

The mission of PMCA is to promote the success of the confectionery industry by providing interactive forums for the free exchange of information, promoting and directing basic and applied scientific research, and educating and training current and future confectionery technical personnel worldwide.

"The launching of the centennial logo and theme reflects a milestone in the planning process begun over a year ago. Although there will be two celebratory events and promotional activities in 2007 to recognize the centennial year, each major PMCA committee works year round to enhance existing programs and member services for years to come," said Alan Cotich, vice president of PMCA and chair of the Centennial Committee.

A gala event to celebrate the centennial is scheduled for October 20, 2007 at the Hotel Hershey. Centennial recognition and celebration will also take place during the annual production conference in April 2007. At that time, industry leaders

will be recognized for their contributions to PMCA. Research is underway to publish a historical perspective on the last century of the confectionery industry. PMCA member companies will be invited to submit specific material for review for inclusion in the publication.

About PMCA

PMCA is a non-profit international trade association in the confectionery industry whose mission is to promote the success of the confectionery industry by providing interactive forums for the free exchange of information, promoting and directing basic and applied scientific research, and educating and training current and future confectionery technical personnel worldwide. PMCA runs a significant internationally recognized Production Conference each spring, provides Grant-In-Aid programs at leading universities and research facilities, and conducts a series of Short Course programs that focus on both scientific and hands-on learning. The organization was originally founded in 1907 as the Pennsylvania Manufacturing Confectioners' Association. For more information on becoming a member please call 610-625-4655 or email info@pmca.com.

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