



For Immediate Release

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PMCA Names Joe Smillie to Receive Tenth Marie Kelso Memorial Award

July 19, 2006, Bethlehem, PA —PMCA's Production Conference Program Committee has named **Joe Smillie**, Senior Vice President at *Quality Assurance International, Inc. (QAI, Inc.)*, as the tenth recipient of the Marie Kelso Memorial Award for his paper, *The US Organic Confectionery Marketplace: Regulatory Compliance, Certification Requirements, Challenges and Opportunities for Sweet Success* presented at the 60th Annual Production Conference on May 2, 2006.

Production Conference Program Committee Co-Chair, David Hess, *Quigley Manufacturing, Inc.*, will present the award at the Tuesday Evening Banquet during the 61st Annual Production Conference, April 17, 2007 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. The award consists of a gift of \$1,000 and a distinctive Waterford® crystal timepiece mounted on a wooden base inscribed with his name. Joe Smillie's name also joins those of the nine previous award winners; Edward S. Sequine, Guittard Chocolate Company, Susan L. Hefle, Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Richard W. Hartel, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison, Marlene B. Stauffer, Blommer Chocolate Company, Harold H. Schmitz, Ph.D, Mars, Nicole Staniec, Firmenich, Inc., Bill Dyer, Blommer Chocolate Company, Greg Ziegler, Pennsylvania State University and Jeffrey Fine, AarhusKarlshamn USA on a large memorial plaque displayed at the PMCA office.

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PMCA's Board of Directors established the award in 1997. It is given each year to the author of the paper presented at the previous year's Annual Production Conference that most significantly contributes to industry knowledge, thus honoring the memory of Marie Kelso in a manner reflecting her faithful dedication and unwavering belief in the value of the Production Conference for the industry.

Marie Kelso served as Secretary to the Production Conference Committee for 38 years, and indeed her name became synonymous with the event itself. In her youth she was secretary to Hans Dresel, a salesman for Felton Chemical Company in Philadelphia, PA. As her boss worked tirelessly to organize and promote PMCA's Annual Production Conference, as well as AACT events, she organized and managed tirelessly as well. After she left her job at Felton Chemical, the Production Conference became her life's work. Marie was also active for many years in the Philadelphia Section of AACT. Marie Kelso passed away in September 1995.

PMCA is a non-profit international trade association in the confectionery industry whose goals are to provide open forums for the free exchange of technical information through its Annual Production Conference, to promote and direct basic and applied scientific research in the science of chocolate and confectionery through its Research Program at leading universities and to educate and train technical and manufacturing personnel worldwide through its Short Course Program. The organization was originally founded in 1907 as the Pennsylvania Manufacturing Confectioners' Association.

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