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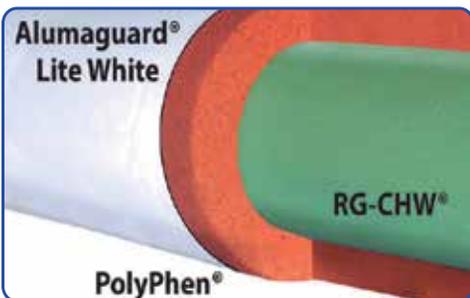
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GCCA released its Global Top 25 List. There are several companies this year that are new on the Top 25 lists, and used different strategies to get there. Some companies grew in markets rife with mergers, acquisitions and consolidations, others targeted greenfield development in port markets, filled a market need for value added-services or attribute their growth to their talented teams. See some of their stories starting on page 16.



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# LEADOFF

## MESSAGES FROM GCCA LEADERS

**W**ELCOME TO THE JULY/AUGUST EDITION OF COLD FACTS. I'M HONORED TO BE WRITING FOR COLD FACTS DURING MY TIME LEADING THE GLOBAL Cold Chain Foundation (GCCF) Board. This position allows me to contribute to two aspects of our organization that I am passionate about.

The first is our development projects. Whether it's supporting the growing food bank network in the United States and worldwide, or conducting market research, capacity building and skills training in developing markets, the Foundation is making a difference. It's important to look beyond our own immediate business concerns and understand the challenges and opportunities faced in other places, as it helps us learn more about ourselves.

I'm proud to have participated in this year's Policy Forum in Washington D.C. Given the dramatic and consequential year for the United States, we were able to advocate for food safety and resilience as well as trade opportunities to the legislators on Capitol Hill. Our FRIDGE campaign has gained further support, and we are optimistic about the possibility of seeing the first-ever GCCA-sponsored cold chain legislation become law, provided that the FARM Bill is legislated. Lowell Randel explains more in the article on page 8.

The second aspect is the development of people. The Cold Chain Institute has been providing a peer-to-peer learning and mentoring program for nearly 60 years, offering valuable knowledge and shared experience to individuals working across the cold chain. We saw a record attendance this year in the United States, with more than 900 students participating in our Institute East and West classes.

Additionally, I had the privilege of witnessing in person the first ever third-year graduating classes from the GCCF Institute in Melbourne, Australia, as well as the first Latin American third-year graduating class since the pandemic. With the launch of the first ever GCCF Cold Chain Institutes in Brazil and Europe this year, it's a thrilling and rewarding time to be involved.

Join us in February as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Cold Chain Institute at both the Institute East and West events. These milestone gatherings will honor 60 years of excellence in cold chain education and innovation, bringing together industry leaders to advance the future of our field. A special anniversary celebration reception will be held at the Omni Hotel rooftop in Tempe, Arizona, on February 25, 2025, in conjunction with Institute West. This anniversary celebration event will be for students, faculty, advisors and past graduates. I hope those of you who have been involved in the Institute will mark your calendar and plan to join us.

As you'll read in these pages, it's an exciting and dynamic time for the cold chain industry worldwide. The cover article introduces some of the stories behind the latest GCCA Top 25 Warehouse Members listings, and the construction article highlights real innovations in construction in Africa as featured in last year's Built By the Best finalist.

I hope to see you at one of the many upcoming events being held around the world over the back half of the year. ☺



**MICKEY HOFFMANN**  
CHAIRMAN  
GCCF

## COLDFACTS

COLD FACTS magazine is published every other month by the **Global Cold Chain Alliance (GCCA)**, an organization that unites partners to be innovative leaders in the temperature-controlled warehousing, transportation and logistics industry.



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For more information on GCCA initiatives and activities follow us on LinkedIn at: [www.linkedin.com/company/global-cold-chain-alliance-gcca/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/global-cold-chain-alliance-gcca/)

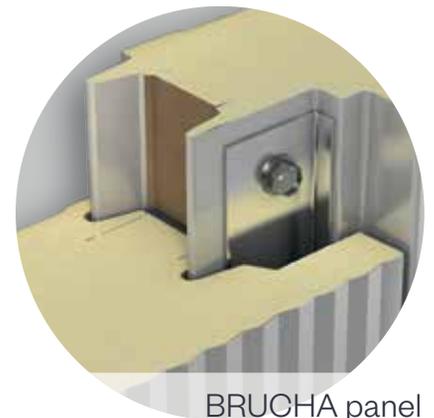
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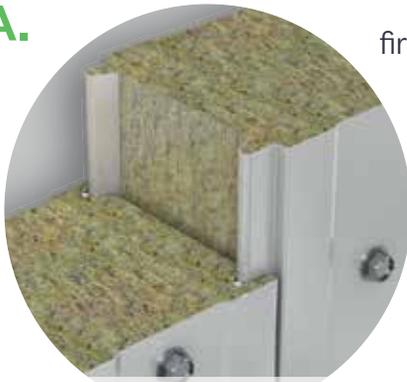
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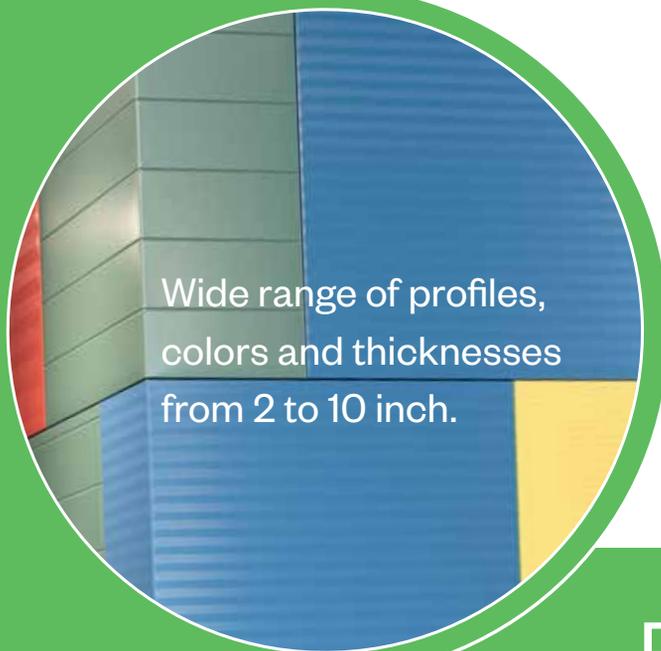
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# NAVIGATING A CHALLENGING FARM BILL

*Trade promotion is in the spotlight as reauthorization of U.S. legislation moves forward.*

**By Lowell Randel**

The month of May provided significant movement as the United States House and Senate Agriculture Committees worked to advance legislation to reauthorize the Farm Bill. The 2018 Farm Bill expired at the end of September 2023 and is currently operating on a one-year extension that ends on September 30, 2024.

## **Challenging Reauthorization**

Successfully navigating the reauthorization process will be challenging. Spending in the new Farm Bill is expected to far eclipse any previous versions, with nutrition programs alone projected to cost over \$1 trillion for the life of the bill. Managing competing funding interests, and in a presidential election year, complicates the path to completing a new bill.

House Agriculture Committee Chairman Glenn “GT” Thompson (R-PA) has stated his desire to get legislation approved in the House as quickly as possible. To that end, he released

his proposed version of the Farm Bill on May 17, and proceeded with a full committee mark-up of the legislation on May 23. After a long – and sometimes contentious – meeting, the House Agriculture Committee approved the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 by a margin of 33-21.

Four Democrats crossed the aisle and voted with Republicans to advance the bill. Ranking Member David Scott (D-GA), and the majority of his Democratic colleagues, voted against the bill because of concerns with nutrition and conservation provisions. The

next step in the process will be floor consideration by the full House.

In the Senate, Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) released her proposed Farm Bill framework entitled the Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act. While the detailed legislative text is not yet available, the committee has provided a summary and section-by-section analysis of the bill. The Senate Agriculture Committee has yet to schedule a committee markup, and it is unclear if it will move prior to House floor consideration of its version.

The most contentious differences between the House and Senate versions of the Farm Bill center around nutrition and conservation. The House bill would limit changes to the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP), aside from inflationary increases, and require Congressional action for changes other than for inflation. Historically, TFP changes were cost neutral until a recent change by the Biden Administration.



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Democrats strongly oppose these limitations and assert that they will amount to significant cuts to future benefits. In conservation, Democrats would like to use funding provided by the Inflation Reduction Act specifically for climate change programs, while Republicans favor using those funds for a broader spectrum of conservation initiatives.

Despite disagreements on nutrition and conservation policy, there are some areas of agreement.

One part of the bill that enjoys strong bipartisan support is the Trade Title. There is broad recognition that food and agricultural trade is critical for the economy, and strong trade promotion programs create market access and act as a catalyst for innovation and economic growth. Unfortunately, there is currently a troubling trend in with U.S. food and agricultural trade.

According to United States Department of Agriculture, in Fiscal Year 2022, the United States exported nearly \$196 billion in agricultural goods. That figure decreased to \$184.5 billion in Fiscal Year 2023 and is projected to further fall to \$170.5 billion in 2024. As a result, it is estimated that there will be a \$30 billion trade deficit in 2024,

up from \$21 billion last year. Policymakers from both chambers and both sides of the aisle, recognize these challenges and are stepping up in support of stronger trade promotion programs.

Two key trade programs in the Farm Bill are the Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development (FMD) program. The House version of the Farm Bill would double funding for these critical programs that help mitigate global food insecurity while providing new markets for U.S. producers. The Senate version would extend the current investment levels for MAP and FMD.

Important to the cold chain, both the House and Senate versions include language from H.R. 4612/ S. 2570, the Fortifying Refrigeration Infrastructure and Developing Global Exports (FRIDGE) Act.

A major limiting factor to growing export markets for U.S. food and agriculture products is insufficient infrastructure capabilities. USDA's current trade programs are focused on promoting specific commodities or products, all of which are reliant on a functioning supply chain.

The FRIDGE Act will complement USDA's ongoing programs by establishing a mechanism focused on strengthening the global food supply chain by delivering needs assessments, training and technical assistance in developing markets.

Major benefits of the FRIDGE Act will include:

1. Increasing export market potential for U.S. perishable products
2. Reducing food loss and waste
3. Improving food security and nutrition in emerging markets

GCCA greatly appreciates the leadership of FRIDGE Act sponsors and cosponsors in the House and Senate, and support from the committees, to include this important language in their respective versions of the Farm Bill.

GCCA looks forward to working closely with the committees and others in Congress as the Farm Bill process moves forward. 🌐

**LOWELL RANDEL** is Senior Vice President, Government and Legal Affairs at GCCA.

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# WHAT'S NEXT AFTER THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS?

*GCCA Europe advocacy team holds webinar Q&A on impact of Parliamentary results.*

**By Shane Brennan**

Last month, the GCCA Europe advocacy team met to discuss the outcome of the European elections and what it means for the cold chain. In the first of a new series of open webinar Q+A sessions, they reflected on Parliamentary results that mean significant changes to the agenda on European economic integration, global trade and environmental policy. The advocacy team also explained GCCA's plans to ensure that the voice of the cold chain is heard in the debates ahead.

In the webinar session, Julie Hanson, GCCA Director of Europe was joined by Shane Brennan, GCCA SVP for Global Communications as well as GCCA advisers Giorgio

Corbetta and Alessandro Piccionne, Directors at Brussels-based Kellen Europe.

#### **A Tilt to the Right**

The European Parliament has shifted to the

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right, strengthening the European People's Party and increasing the presence of right-leaning political parties. This includes confirming a second term for European Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen.



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Corbetta explained it will likely mean continuity in key structures and policy files of the previous Commission but with major shifts in emphasis away from ambitious commitments to net zero transition in energy and transport and a rebalancing of food and environmental policy towards the imperatives of agricultural production.

### A Clear Agenda for the Cold Chain

Brennan explained how the new agenda is likely to impact the priorities set out by GCCA and fellow European trade associations in the spring. He identified the most high-profile issues that will be indicators of the likely approach to key issues, for example the possible delay to the ban on diesel and petrol cars and vans in 2035, the ending of key environmental land use targets on agriculture and the approach to global trade policy.

### Ready to Act

Hanson led the discussion on GCCA's preparations to engage with the new Commission and Parliament. Piccione mapped out the key Parliamentary Committees and how GCCA will target the key influencers and potential allies with briefings and information.

The team talked about the importance of member support and engagement in gathering necessary data and helping GCCA positions to agree on the details of key policy briefs. They also stressed the importance of working with and through a coalition of voices from across the industry. The team reiterated its commitment to working with Europe-based national associations and representatives of associated industries. 🌐

**SHANE BRENNAN** is Senior Vice President for Global Communications at GCCA.

**EMAIL:** [sbrennan@gcca.org](mailto:sbrennan@gcca.org)



(Clockwise from top left: Shane Brennan, GCCA SVP Global Communications; Giorgio Corbetta, Kellen Europe; Julie Hanson, GCCA Europe Director; and Alessandro Piccione, Kellen Europe)

## GCCA Joins Industry Call for a New Industrial Strategy for Europe

GCCA joined a powerful alliance of business and government voices from across Europe when it signed the Antwerp Declaration in June.

The Antwerp Declaration for the European Industrial Deal will play a key role in the formation of the new Strategic Agenda for Europe that will be agreed upon later this year.

GCCA Europe Director Julie Hanson says, "We are delighted to join this movement for a new Industrial settlement. Cold chain businesses are vital to the future economic success of Europe. We strongly endorse the Antwerp Declaration's plans for public and private investment in our energy resilience and the need to invest in critical supply chains. Working together, the European Parliament and cold chain businesses can facilitate investment in the infrastructure, innovation and future skills that are needed for resilient and sustainable temperature-controlled food and pharmaceutical supply chains into the future. Now that the elections have taken place, we look forward to the new European Parliament and Commission getting to work. We will ensure that the interests of the cold chain and the critical food and pharmaceutical industries they serve are heard."

Read the Antwerp Declaration here [www.antwerp-declaration.eu](http://www.antwerp-declaration.eu)

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## MAKING THE LIST

Recent additions to the world's 25 largest operators share how they got there.

**G**CCA released the association's annual Global Top 25 List of its largest temperature-controlled warehousing and logistics members. Regions worldwide reported increased capacity.

GCCA warehouse members currently own or operate 7.39 billion cubic feet (209 million cubic meters). A total capacity of more than 600 million cubic feet was added to the Global Top 25 List since last year due to mergers and acquisition (M&A) activity and the opening of new planned facilities. There is not a suggestion the general industry grew at this pace.

“We anticipated the uncertainty in 2023 would slow investments in the sector, but once again, the cold chain has proven to be resilient in the face of adversity,” says Adam Thocher, GCCA Senior Vice President, Global Programs and Insights. “GCCA members have continued to create and grow their networks around the world, both through acquisition and greenfield developments.”

Accompanying the Global Top 25 is the GCCA North American Top 25 Warehouse Member List as well as lists of the largest operators in Latin America and Europe. The lists are determined by total reported capacity of temperature-controlled space by the GCCA membership.

There are also several companies this year that are new on the Top 25 lists, and used different strategies to get there. Some companies grew in markets rife with mergers, acquisitions and consolidations, others targeted greenfield development in port markets, filled a market need for value added-services or attribute their growth to their talented teams.

Here are some of their stories.

### Market Growth Dynamics

“Our rapid growth is driven by a market that is ripe for consolidation and customer demand for larger, well-capitalized players,” says Henry Pringle, COO of Constellation Cold Logistics, headquartered in the United Kingdom.

Pringle explains that currently, the European cold storage market is highly fragmented, with several founder-led smaller businesses. Often these smaller businesses can face capital constraints, limiting the ability to invest in expansion to support customers with growing storage needs, as well as limiting investment in modernization and new technology. This has led to a growing group of founder-led businesses considering potential exit or sale.

“Constellation began its journey in 2020 to consolidate leading local players into a pan-European provider of scale that had the ability to support the future needs of our customers across Europe,” says Pringle. “Our aim is to retain the local market expertise, empowerment and responsiveness, with the benefit of scale and best-practice capability of a pan-European provider.”

Turning three years old in August 2024, Emergent Cold LatAm focused on M&A in its first two years, acquiring 19 companies, building two new cold storage facilities, across 11 countries.

Unlike mature markets in the United States or Europe, Latin America still has significant room for growth in outsourcing services, explains Neal Rider, CEO and Co-founder of Emergent Cold LatAm.

In well-established markets, around 80% of products are handled by 3PL providers. In contrast, third-party companies manage only about 35% of the volume in Latin America. “This indicates immense growth potential with the sector’s development just beginning,” Rider says. “The shift towards more 3PL cold storage is starting here, echoing the transition in the United States and the European Union 20 years ago,” says Rider.

Despite these opportunities, doing business in Latin America presents many challenges that can affect the stability and predictability of logistics operations. “However, these challenges also present opportunities for innovation and investment in more resilient and efficient cold chain solutions,” says Rider. “Enhancing the overall efficiency and reliability of the supply chain in the region is key to unlocking its full potential.”

The growth in capacity for FreezPak Logistics is attributable to its strategic focus on developing a national platform that enables seamless product transportation between its facilities, according to FreezPak Co-founder and CEO Dave Saoud.

“The company emphasizes comprehensive service offerings, positioning itself as a one-stop shop for clients,” Saoud says. “By acting as a 4PL, FreezPak can efficiently manage and optimize customer logistics operations, driving growth through enhanced service

capabilities and streamlined supply chain management.”

Headquartered in New Jersey in the United States, the majority of FreezPak Logistics’ growth has been achieved through greenfield development specifically targeting port markets. “By focusing on ground-up construction, FreezPak maintains its identity as a family-owned business driven by two brothers who have witnessed their father’s success in both wholesale and retail food businesses,” says Saoud. “Notably, our development company, Saoud Development, plays a pivotal role in making these expansions possible by designing facilities tailored to the operational needs of FreezPak Logistics.”

Rudy Sandoval, Senior Vice President, Business Development, Sales and Commercial at Envision Cold, headquartered in Georgia in the United States, attributes their growth to date to acquisitions and the teams they inherited. He says the company has successfully completed six acquisitions and continues to evaluate opportunities in markets it feels are underserved. In parallel, Envision Cold is also focused on expansions and greenfield developments to meet customer demands for new supply in certain markets, explains Sandoval.

“We have an incredible team (both local and centralized) that has laid the foundation for growth,” Sandoval says. “Through acquisitions, we have inherited a large number of talented individuals that have already been promoted throughout the organization, making us comfortable to continue growing.”

### Invest in Tech

All four companies new to the Top 25 lists acknowledge the importance of investing in research and development of new technologies to be able to continue expanding capacity.

Sandoval notes investment in technology is one of Envision’s core strategies. “We feel that a fully integrated tech stack is fundamental to continuously improving customer service,” he says. “Our tech leaders are always looking for novel and cutting-edge solutions to not only expand our capabilities, but also meet the needs and demands of our customers.”

Pringle says, “At Constellation, we have been embracing and seeking out new tech-

nologies from construction materials, energy efficiency investments and warehouse equipment to robotization and IT. This ensures that we continue to be as efficient as possible.”

Emergent Cold LatAm’s growth strategy emphasizes transforming the cold chain in Latin America with a strong focus on energy efficiency and sustainability. “We aim to reduce energy consumption by at least 40% in new buildings and retrofit the acquired facilities,” says Rider. “We have EDGE Advanced-certified plants in Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Panama, and we are ambitiously working towards certification for other locations, including the adoption of solar energy in various of our existing locations and all the new builds.”

Rider notes beyond energy savings, the EDGE Advanced standards also mandate reductions in water consumption and carbon emissions in building materials. “Soon, we expect to unveil our first temperature-controlled food warehouse recognized as zero carbon,” he says.

### Consumer Trends and Food Waste

“We believe there are strong consumer and macroeconomic trends supporting demand for our services including an increased focus on nutrition, with the rise in fresh and frozen food, as well as imported food that travels long distances,” says Pringle. “Customers are also demanding larger varieties of food year-round, and a growing demand across retail and foodservice is providing further demand.”

Frozen foods have several benefits in reducing food wastage including both at the processing and distribution stage as well as on the consumer end, Pringle points out. “As both producers and consumers become more cost- and environmentally conscious, we see a shift towards frozen food further driving growth in demand for cold storage.”

Sandoval says while they fully recognize the continued growth and adaptation of e-commerce, it’s also important to note that this work doesn’t always necessarily require a large space. “Believe it or not, the majority of the e-commerce volume you see today is being processed through existing infrastructure that has been retrofitted.”

Sandoval points out that reducing food wastage could absolutely have an impact on

the demand for storage facilities or propel market growth. “Reduction in waste could allow for distribution of more food to families in need, and incremental product flowing through the cold chain would drive the need for additional storage.”

“While reducing food wastage may contribute to increased demand for storage facilities, we believe that market growth will primarily be driven by our proactive efforts to expand our services and enhance our capabilities by focusing on innovation, efficiency and customer satisfaction,” says Saoud.

### Growth Strategies, Challenges and Next Gen Cold Storage

“Constellation has a robust and ambitious growth plan in each region, we will continue to grow via M&A and expansion projects in existing and new geographies, and we have a strong pipeline to achieve this,” says Pringle.

Pringle adds in addition to expansion, the company will continue to invest in its existing facilities. “We see an increased focus on sustainability and net zero from both operators and their customers. As regulation and consumer pressure increases in this space, cold stores will be required to adapt and invest,” Pringle says. “Part of this can be addressed by energy efficiency, which can create significant cost savings for cold stores.”

Pringle says the company’s newest facilities are tailored to the local operation, ensuring maximum efficiency for the customer mix and commodity type in the market they serve. “This can mean anything from a fully automated high bay facility to a highly flexible conventional facility with some process automation,” he says. “They are built with the latest materials and refrigeration equipment for high performance and energy efficiency and include large solar arrays on the roof.”

Saoud is concerned about the industry trend in overbuilding, which he believes could lead to an imbalance of space if speculative development continues unchecked.

“New entrants may not grasp the importance of waiting for demand to catch up with supply and may face challenges when their platforms lack the maturity and experience of established operators,” Saoud says. “Speculative developers could struggle to lease facilities as operators assess actual

**Global Top 25** operate 6.67 billion cubic feet (189 million cubic meters); capacity increased 606 million cubic feet over the previous year

**North American Top 25** operate 4.7 billion cubic feet (133 million cubic meters); capacity increased by 326 million cubic feet over the previous year

**European Top 10** operate 1.17 billion cubic feet (33 million cubic meters)

**Latin American Top 10** operate 544 million cubic feet (15.4 million cubic meters); capacity increased by 103 million cubic feet over the previous year

demand – currently, I don’t see a need for additional space in certain markets where development has been rampant”

Emergent Cold LatAm’s growth now will be mostly driven by the organic expansion of its existing facilities and through new cold stores, reports Rider. In May, the company inaugurated Chile’s largest cold storage facility and completed two expansions in Mexico. It is also working on nine other projects in Uruguay, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Peru, Mexico and Colombia, with three more in the pipeline.

Rider notes one of the company’s key challenges is sustaining its growth while accelerating the integration of its network.

“Integration goes beyond standardizing operations, systems and procedures; it ensures that our customers receive the same consistent, high-quality service at all our locations,” Rider says. “To achieve this, we have developed the Emergent Way, which includes an operating playbook and core principles designed to drive standardization, optimization and synergies across our 70-plus warehouses.”

Rider adds the initiative also involves implementing a unified, best-in-class enterprise resource planning software and warehouse management system.



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“We have ambitious growth plans, but not at the expense of associate development or customer service,” says Sandoval. “Our goal, first and foremost, is to build a sustainable and respected business. As we feel comfortable, we will keep growing, opening up additional opportunities for both our associates and customers.”

Sandoval says from their customers’ perspective, they continuously hear investment in technology and operational flexibility. “There is a continuing need for operators to be more nimble, flexible and transparent, and we will do so through technology,” he says.

Sandoval suggests the company’s next generation cold storage space looks like increased storage density, semi-automated operations, more efficient power usage, use of artificial intelligence and technology to improve the customer experience.

### Making the List

“Being included on the GCCA List of Top 25 Largest Companies, given that our platform is in its infancy, is a significant accomplishment for Envision Cold,” says Sandoval.

“Having commenced operations in 2020, Constellation has grown rapidly to now become the second largest provider in Europe and the only independent pan-European player of scale,” says Pringle. “We are grateful to our loyal customers in choosing to partner with us to support their growth, as well as our fantastic team in helping deliver a great service.”

“Being listed among the GCCA’s Top 25 Largest Companies, as the largest in Latin America and the sixth largest globally, is a testament to the execution of our talented team,” says Rider. “Emergent Cold LatAm’s more

than 3,500 associates work tirelessly to provide our clients with the optimal solutions.”

“As founders who still retain 100% ownership, FreezPak Logistics on the List of Top 25 Largest Companies is a source of pride, and we view it as validation of our decision to patiently develop our platform over the years,” says Saoud. “As a family business, the recognition holds significant meaning, as it underscores our dedication, expertise and commitment to delivering exceptional service in the industry.”

**ALEXANDRA WALSH** is a Senior Publishing Consultant with Association Vision and Editor-in-Chief of COLD FACTS.

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# CEBA

## BUILT BY THE BEST CASE STUDY

By Keith Loria

### SUSTAINABLE COLD CHAIN IN AFRICA

#### AMC Engineers builds the largest chilled distribution center in South Africa.

When Pieter Boon, CEO of South Africa retailer Pick n Pay, saw the need for a new distribution center to help centralize the company's supply chain, he turned to AMC Engineers Ltd., of Western Cape, South Africa, to make that happen.

The goal of the project was to help the retailer, which operates three brands – Pick n Pay, Boxer and TM Supermarkets – deliver key logistics and supply chain innovations and achieve efficiencies and growing market share at a time when faster and cheaper service has never been more important.

The Pick n Pay Inland 2 Distribution Center, situated in the Eastport Logistics Park in Gauteng, is now the largest chilled distribution center in South Africa.

For the \$118 million project, AMC completed the design, tender and site supervision of the refrigeration, insulated structures and the HVAC to all ancillary buildings.

The overall site is approximately 3.8 million square feet, with 1.61 million square feet as its distribution area. Of that, 485,000 square feet is the chilled distribution area and forms the portion of the development that AMC was involved in. The ammonia plant is a 7.2 megawatt installed refrigeration plant with a total of 9.2 megawatts of heat rejection to the evaporative condensers.

The facility incorporates expansion plans, future customer demand and hugely increases stock deliveries to stores, while being able to



(Photos courtesy of AMC Engineers, Ltd.)

hold slower moving lines, allowing customers an extensive but tailored product range without additional distribution costs.

Based on the large size of the project, a decision was made early on to go with secondary refrigerants in the field and limit the ammonia charge to the plant room. This proved to be a solid decision, as the congestion in the roof void combined with the travel distances, greatly increased the safety aspects of the overall facility and roof void, ensuring success.

From a layout point of view, conceptual planning arrangements and operational flows were developed to fully optimize the flow

of vehicles, equipment and people with the goal of increasing operational efficiencies, decreasing CO2 emissions and optimizing staff efficiencies.

#### Notable Highlights

The project is divided into two suction regimes (-8.75°C and +3.25°C) in order to generate the most energy efficiency while operating in a single stage, open flash economized fashion.

The company notes that the -8.75°C system is a 4.5 MW chilled glycol system supplying the 2°C rooms with cooling, while the +3.25°C system is a 2.15 MW plant supplying the



14°C and chocolate box rooms with cooling. Additional high stage capacity is utilized to economize the medium temperature (-8.75°C) plant by means of open flash economizing in the high stage vessel.

All heat from the building, including any future ambient area incorporated, is extradiated by means of 80 coils of 74 kWR each in the 2°C space, 24 coils of 76 kWR each in the 14°C space and four coils of 73 kWR each in the chocolate box. This was designed for a peak heat recovery of 317 k. However, at first, only approximately 200 kW will be recoverable due to the plant capacity ramping up over the life of the facility. This waste heat is utilized to warm the water for the crate wash plant.

AMC Engineers equipped the facility with variable speed drives on all motors to opti-

mize the part-load conditions and help with energy savings.

The company also installed high-efficiency electronically commutated fans for the cold room, which comprises 104 blower coils and 416 fans with a total peak power consumption of 650 kW. The project team felt this was vital in order to optimize both the speed and control of the fans to decrease power consumption to an absolute minimum.

From a business perspective, mitigating risk involved constructing a firewall to separate the dry goods and perishables warehouses. This 656-foot-long and 85-foot-high tilt-up concrete structure, known among the professional team as “The Great Wall of PnP,” is a two-hour fire wall. The concrete panels for the wall were poured horizontally on sacrificial beds at ground level and then lifted into place

with cranes, forming the central spine of the development.

### The Top and Bottom of Things

The project achieved an official Guinness World Record for the longest roof span covered by a single metal corrugated sheet (known as Sky Forming). The sheet stretches 918 feet across the widest portion of the Pick n Pay roof.

Though the roof looks entirely curved, it’s actually a flat-pitched portion central to the roof space in order to avoid a flat spot on the curved roof.

The facility also boasts South Africa’s largest jointless floor slab. The warehouse floor is one of the most critical structural elements, not only supporting the racking system but also determining the efficiency of forklift and reach truck operations.





This highly specialized, laser-leveled, post-tensioned concrete floor, poured to FM-2 standards, minimizes joints and enhances the movement of material handling equipment within the distribution center. This method also mitigates issues like five-meter sinkholes, shrinkage and curling. Additionally, the layout utilizes a conveyor design that links operational areas into one sortation system and employs high-rise racking to reduce travel distances.

### Sustainability Matters

The project qualified for EDGE Green Building Certification thanks to its commitment to incorporating green and sustainable practices throughout.

For instance, the facility has 6,600 PV panels that take up nearly 182,000 square feet of roof space and generate 6 GWh of electricity per year, preventing 5,900 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

The design team used 100-percent recycled

steel for the roof structure and side cladding. Additionally, by choosing Colorplus steel in a Seaspray color (which has the highest solar reflective index), it helped the roof qualify as a “cool” roof, enabling the facility to have better climate control and use less energy.

AMC Engineers also used a great deal of concrete for the floors, walls, columns and foundations, ensuring durability and creating installations that absorb and retain heat. Another savvy sustainable move was using cement bricks instead of clay bricks, which are known to be more environmentally friendly as they are manufactured with fly-ash, which doesn't deplete fertile soil as do the clay bricks.

Another important sustainable measure is that Eastport harvests all rainwater through on-site attenuation dams and a 1-million-liter storage tank, which feeds the domestic supply and the refrigeration system running the perishables building. Excess water from the refrigeration and crate wash facilities will

be recycled to wash the Pick n Pay truck fleet, while waste heat generated from the refrigeration plant will be harnessed to heat water for the crate wash.

All excess packaging generated at the facility will be recycled locally, while organic waste and other recovered materials will be composted.

For lighting, the team went with all LEDs throughout the facility. It also utilized a DALI lighting automation system with sensors in the warehouses to help with occupancy in aisles and daylight harvesting in open areas. Additionally, office lighting is controlled via standard motions sensors and a master switch system at reception. All lighting designs were completed via software simulation for maximum efficiency.

Despite the challenges faced due to the COVID pandemic, the Pick n Pay Inland 2 Distribution Center was completed safely, on time and on budget.

The final facility design, the material handling equipment, and the operational solution all work in unison to create an effective and sustainable solution that enables Pick n Pay to service its stores and customers more efficiently, accurately and cost-effectively than before. Cold Chain Executives from across Africa will be gathering in Cape Town, South Africa, 22-23 August for the GCCA Africa Cold Chain Conference, where industry trends will continue to be discussed. 🌐



**KEITH LORIA** is an award-winning journalist who has been writing for major newspapers and magazines for close to 20 years, on topics as diverse as sports, business and technology.

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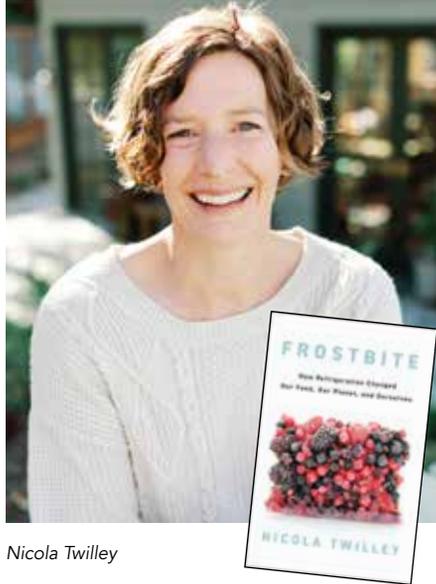


# COLD CHAIN LEADERS TO GATHER IN FLORIDA FOR GLOBAL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

The 133rd GCCA Convention will be held September 23-26, 2024, in Bonita Springs, Florida, at The Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa. The event is designed specifically for temperature-controlled warehousing, transportation, logistics and design/build leaders as well as all the industry suppliers that support cold chain industry through their products and services.



Rachel Wilson



Nicola Twilley



Lowell Randel, Senior Vice President of Government & Legal Affairs, GCCA

### Keynote Presentations

As the types of cyberattacks and nature of the attackers have changed in the last 18 months, cold chain industry professionals need to understand how business should prepare and respond. Rachel Wilson, Director of Cybersecurity, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, brings her unique perspective, as a former National Security Agency executive and current CISO for Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, to bear on the question of how we can best defend ourselves against an increasingly hostile cyber environment.

Author Nicola Twilley will reveal fascinating insights from her new book *Frostbite: How Refrigeration Changed Our Food, Our Planet, and Ourselves*. Twilley will share stories from her extensive research on the history of refrigeration, exploring the hidden corners of refrigeration’s impact on our food systems, from cheese caves to banana-ripening rooms. In this session, you will gain fresh perspectives on how refrigeration has reshaped our diets and environments and engage with Twilley’s unique insights into this transformative technology.

As GCCA continues to expand its advocacy efforts globally. Hear from Lowell Randel, GCCA’s Senior Vice President of Government & Legal Affairs, regarding the latest on GCCA’s work to advance cold chain industry priorities to policy makers, including GCCA-led Farm Bill legislation entitled the “FRIDGE Act” as well as upcoming regulatory changes that will impact the industry.

In addition, Randel will be joined on stage by GCCA’s International Directors for a discussion around how GCCA is engaging with governments globally to elevate the profile of the cold chain in Africa, Canada, Brazil, Latin America the E.U. and other parts of the world.



Ana Regina Garcia,  
Director of Latin America,  
GCCA



Julie Hanson,  
Director of Europe, GCCA



Paul Matthew,  
Director of Africa, GCCA



Isabela Perazza,  
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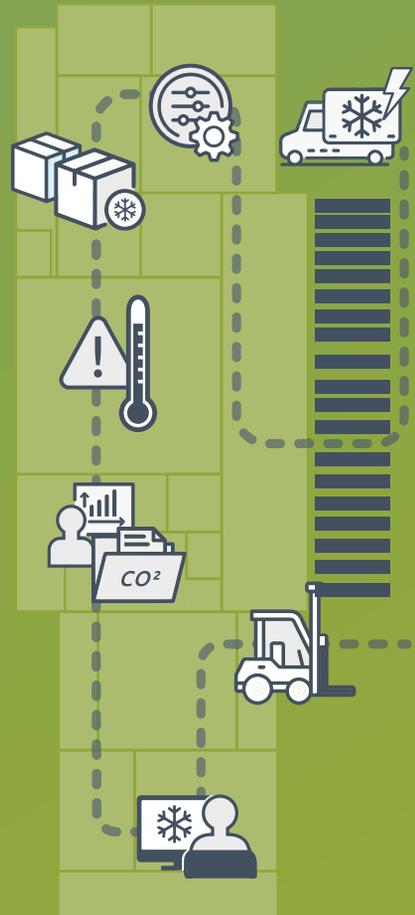
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## Supplier Showcase

The Innovation Showcase is where attendees can connect with the top industry solutions providers and stay informed on new automation solutions, equipment, technology, construction trends and other industry solutions to innovate their businesses.

Designed to offer conventioners a place to meet, relax and recharge, the Supplier Showcase is open daily and located next to the General Session room. All coffee and refreshment breaks will take place in the Showcase, providing ample time for sponsors to engage with attendees as they enjoy a cup of coffee while discussing business needs. Sponsors may also utilize their space in the Supplier Showcase throughout the event for one-on-one meetings.

## Cold Chain Café

The Cold Chain Café creates an exchange of ideas and discussion on critical issues facing the industry. Participants choose from a list of different topics, join the table at which the issue is being discussed and spend 20 minutes sharing ideas. Participants then switch tables to discuss ideas. These roundtable conversations provide attendees a chance to share ideas, ask questions and solve problems with their peers in a small group setting. The moderator will guide the participants through questions they have submitted in advance, diving into the subjects that matter most to attendees and the industry.

## Networking

Prominent social activities and the Supplier Showcase all give attendees and industry suppliers unparalleled access to build partnerships with key decision makers. Other networking opportunities include an opening night reception, a golf tournament, a themed party, an after-hours party as well as coffee breaks, breakfasts and group activities.

## Tech Talks

Industry thought leaders will deliver informative presentations on innovations in the cold storage industry. The GCCA Education team works with Tech Talk presenters to create a high-level industry perspective on how their solutions, tools and/or technology can help support their customers' businesses, and how they see the industry evolving.

## Focus Sessions

This year, attendees can choose three of the six focus sessions offered during the convention. These smaller, more focused educational offers cover topics including:

- Macroeconomics, Demographics, and Impact on Food Consumption
- AI in the Cold Chain: A Case Study
- Future of Energy & Data Utilization in Warehouses
- Complexities & Considerations in Building an Automated Facility
- North American Industrial Real Estate Market Update
- Optimizing Warehouse Efficiency & Maximizing Carrier Relationships: A Case Study
- Innovations in Food Rescue
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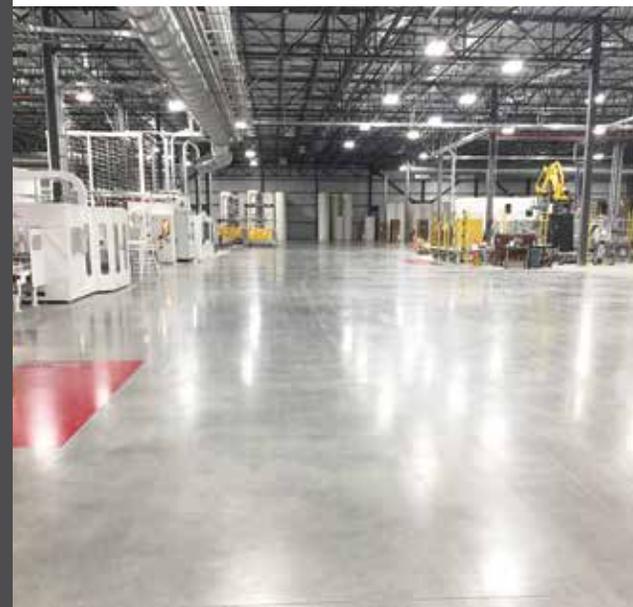
The cold chain industry is growing and changing. From advanced technologies to new regulations as well as political and economic uncertainties, our industry must be nimble, flexible and ready for change. Throughout the Convention we will focus on the top challenges and opportunities facing the industry and discuss solutions for your business. Make sure to register your team to take advantage of this invaluable opportunity to learn and network. 🌐

## 133rd GCCA Convention Exhibitor List

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# A GLIMPSE INTO THE CHINESE COLD CHAIN INDUSTRY

*GCCA participates in CFLP conference, and visits a number of cold chain partners.*

**By Adam Thocher**

In June 2024, GCCA's Adam Thocher, Senior Vice President of Global Programs & Insights, attended the Chinese Federation of Logistics and Purchasing's (CFLP) 16th Annual Global Food Cold Chain Conference in Nanchang, China. In addition, Thocher traveled around China visiting a number of partners to get a glimpse of the state of the Chinese Cold Chain Industry.

GCCA and CFLP have enjoyed a long and fruitful collaboration. For years, GCCA has been proud to support this event, which brings Chinese food, logistics and transportation professionals together with local and global industry suppliers, international trade representatives and even an ambassador or two. Over two days, more than 1,200 delegates heard from experts and discussed content

focused solely on the food supply chain.

I am proud and privileged to have spent much of the past three years attending conferences and visiting cold chain facilities and businesses worldwide. But it is fair to say that my time has been largely spent in the “Western” supply chain. Even so, wherever I have been, China has loomed large. Receiving and sending goods from and to China is a sig-

nificant, even dominant, business opportunity for many GCCA members.

The conference was my first glimpse of the global cold chain from inside China looking out. It was striking in both its separation and its fundamental similarities. The similarities were apparent in the conference's theme, “harnessing the increased efficiencies that result from a globalized and integrated supply chain.” Chinese businesses, like their Western counterparts, see opportunity in growing infrastructure and trade links between markets across the world.

As the saying goes, a rising tide lifts all boats. I was delighted to share the GCCA's analysis and our optimistic outlook on the growth of the cold storage market. Our industry, significantly fragmented only a few short years ago, is now experiencing a wave of globalized consolidation. I shared the Global

Cold Chain Foundation's (GCCF) work in providing expertise in feasibility studies, market assessments for underdeveloped markets, and the downstream effects of nations seeking to increase their export or food trade capacities.

The separation (if that is the right word) comes from seeing firsthand just how much the power of the cold chain in China has come from how it has transformed how the food supply is organized within the country. Feeding the growing middle class is a powerhouse of the Chinese economic story. It has been made possible by investment from the Chinese state and coordinated efforts to create cold chain corridors within the country between urban populations and their hinterlands. This has been the foundation of a growth story that is amazing to behold.

The China story (at scale, admittedly) should inspire many other countries still developing their cold chain infrastructure. It also vindicates our strategy and approach to GCCF project work.

After the conference, I was on the road to see some of this innovation firsthand. I was invited to visit the Guangdong Cold Chain Association for meetings across the state. We started our meetings with a visit to Yuhu Cold Chain Market Trading Center, a compound that combines a commodity market, auction house and 280,000 tons of automated cold storage capacity.

From there, we visited a VX Cold Chain facility and sampled the durian fruit stored inside at one of the newest retail outlets proliferating nationwide. We wrapped up our schedule with a visit to the Guangdong Provincial Department of Commerce, where we discussed with the director the importance of reasonable policies in moving food across borders, opportunities to professionalize the workforce and the opportunity to implement global standards.

Finally, we took up the opportunity offered at the CFLP event by the Managing Director of the Yantian Port for a tour and discussion of this incredible complex. Moving over 30 million TEUs annually and 20,000 trucks daily, with expansion efforts underway to double that capacity, the size and complexity of the global supply chain was in full view. The



focus on efficiency was evident in the heavy investments to reduce dwell times for refrigerated containers and move them as quickly as possible to one of the many cold storage facilities around the complex.

This trip offered a glimpse, but one that opened my eyes wide to a cold chain story that is worthy of at least equal attention to the one we know well in the "west." I was left reassured that while the scale, culture and approach may seem very different, the fundamental challenges and opportunities that are

driving the Chinese cold chain are the same as those in other global regions. I am also confident that our ability to foster dialogue and shared learning is vital to our shared future.

To find out more about the Chinese Federation of Logistics and Purchasing and their work visit [en.chinawuliu.com.cn](http://en.chinawuliu.com.cn). 

**ADAM THOCHER** is Senior Vice President for Global Programs and Insights at GCCA.

**EMAIL:** [athocher@gcca.org](mailto:athocher@gcca.org).



# COLD CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

## NEWS ABOUT GCCF INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

This column features news about key projects of the Global Cold Chain Foundation (GCCF) and its work with members, aid organizations and international development partners to help emerging economies and lower-income countries meet the challenges that arise when growing a safe and efficient global cold chain.

### NEW PROJECT

#### West Africa Emerging Markets Program, 2024 – 2025

As part of the USDA-funded Emerging Markets Program (EMP), GCCF will assess the technology, operations, and investment in cold chain logistics and food safety in Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana. Based on this assessment, GCCF will implement a series of technical trainings, a study tour and consultations in addition to developing a cold chain mentorship program with established operators from North America. GCCF will also work with local associations to scale-up their cold chain programming for sustained support beyond the life of this project. Ultimately, this project seeks to increase the trade of proteins and other perishable products, reduce food waste and improve the quality of food in the region.

### ACTIVE PROJECTS

#### Agricultural Trade and Climate Smart Innovations (ATraCSI) Project, 2023 – 2027

*Partnered with Improving Economies for Stronger Communities (IESC)*

GCCF carried out the Cold Chain Market Opportunities and Infrastructure Assessment in collaboration with GCCA member, LixCap, earlier in 2024. Opportunities were identified in Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala through this assessment. In July, stakeholders from the region attended GCCF's Cold Chain Institute in Mexico City.

#### Bangladesh Trade Facilitation (BTF) Project, 2020 – 2025

*Partnered with Venture37 and LixCap*

GCCF continues to advise on best practices in warehouse operation and design. Following Dr. Elhadi Yahia's technical assistance earlier in 2024, GCCF is looking for ways to support additional capacity building activities to improve postharvest management. GCCF is also supporting curriculum to educate local commercial refrigeration technicians and



GCCF Consultant Debbie Corado presented on cold chain opportunities in Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala at an event in Guatemala City, Guatemala, in May 2024.

engineers to provide service and maintenance for cold chain equipment.

#### Dominican Republic TraSa Project, 2021 – 2025

*Partnered with Improving Economies for Stronger Communities (IESC)*

GCCF continues to support cold chain development in the Dominican Republic through the TraSa project. At present, GCCF is updating a perishable handling manual in Spanish with the aid of Dr. Elhadi Yahia, member of the GCCF Council of Scientific Advisors. Additionally, eight participants from the project attended GCCF's Cold Chain Institute Latin America in July.

#### Storage Through Organized Refrigeration (STOR) App

*Partnered with Warehouses4Good*

GCCF is working alongside GCCA member Warehouses4Good to develop a pilot smartphone app that will connect food supply agencies with the owners of cold storage

space in the Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia (DMV) area. GCCF has completed the data collection (phase 1) and use case requirements (phase 2) of the project. Current work involves onboarding local organizations for the pilot and testing the app to finalize it for official pilot launch in July 2024. GCCF invites any interested organizations located in the DMV to contact Amanda Brondy, [abrondy@gcca.org](mailto:abrondy@gcca.org).

### CLOSED PROJECT

#### Technical Assistance for Postharvest Facilities in India, 2024

Recently, GCCF completed a project to assess the cold chain network in the states of Assam and West Bengal, India. This project featured a needs assessment in each state and the development of technical manuals, training curriculum and facility design plans to strengthen postharvest practices of 14 local commodities. The project was supported by technical experts Dr. Vijay Yadav Tokala, Dr. Lisa Kitinoja and Richard Dowdell.

### Ongoing Support to Reduce Food Loss and Waste

GCCF is developing a learning pathway for food rescue organizations that will contain four virtual courses. Based on feedback from Feeding America, and building off an educational webinar that GCCF developed and delivered in collaboration with the Global Foodbanking Network, GCCF will house four virtual courses on the Cold Chain e-campus. Courses will include cold chain considerations to building or expanding space; forklift safety; emergency response planning; and best practices for food tempering, chilling and freezing. In addition, GCCF attended the *ReFed Food Waste Summit* in Baltimore, Maryland, in June 2024 to participate in an invite-only session on mapping solutions and bridging gaps in food waste reduction. 🌐



Dr. Elhadi Yahia, right, traveled to Bangladesh earlier in 2024 to provide postharvest technical assistance. He was joined by Nabeel Khan from the Bangladesh Trade Facilitation project.

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# 2024 GCCA, GCCF and CEBA Global Events Calendar

## AUGUST

### GCCF COLD CHAIN INSTITUTE BRAZIL

13-15 AUGUST 2024

Sao Paulo, Brazil | The Gran Estanplaza Berrini

This event, designed for employees with clear management potential and executives new to the industry, features extensive classes in warehouse management and transportation management taught by leading experts in the industry.

**Audience:** Warehouse managers, operations managers, warehouse supervisors, shift leads, customer service managers, transportation managers, workers with high potential for management, and executives new to the industry.



### AFRICAN COLD CHAIN CONFERENCE

21-22 AUGUST 2024

Cape Town, South Africa

This event is South Africa's one and only venue bringing together cold store operators, controlled-environment builders, equipment suppliers and service providers to discuss opportunities and innovations of this essential sector.

**Audience:** Executives and managers from temperature-controlled, third-party logistics companies.



## SEPTEMBER

### GCCF COLD CHAIN INSTITUTE EUROPE

2-4 SEPTEMBER 2024

Amsterdam, The Netherlands | TBD

This event, designed for employees with clear management potential and executives new to the industry, features extensive classes in warehouse management and transportation management taught by leading experts in the industry.

**Audience:** Warehouse managers, operations managers, warehouse supervisors, shift leads, customer service managers, transportation managers, workers with high potential for management, and executives new to the industry.



### 133RD GCCA CONVENTION

23-26 SEPTEMBER 2024

Bonita Springs, Florida, United States | Hyatt Regency Coconut Point

This annual gathering for GCCA and GCCF features education, networking and business development opportunities for third-party logistics companies and warehouse operators.

**Audience:** Owners, CEOs, presidents, executive leadership teams.



**GCCA LATIN AMERICAN COLD CHAIN CONGRESS****7-8 NOVEMBER 2024**

Panama City, Panama | TBD

This meeting enables GCCA members and leaders in the temperature controlled industry to interact, learn about industry trends and expand their knowledge. The Congress also serves as a discussion forum for issues of interest to multi-regional cold chain industry leaders.

**Audience:** Senior executives in temperature-controlled warehousing or logistics.

**44TH CEBA CONFERENCE & EXPO****11-14 NOVEMBER 2024**

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, United States | Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort &amp; Spa

This annual meeting of CEBA members offers education, business development opportunities and networking for company executives managing the building of new cold storage facilities and cold storage builders.

**Audience:** Chief engineers, regional facility managers, regional facility maintenance leads, construction engineer managers, owners/CEOs who are building or expanding facilities.



GLOBAL COLD CHAIN ALLIANCE

**COLD CHAIN CONNECTION**

**GCCA Cold Chain Connections are designed to bring together professionals working in the temperature-controlled warehouse, logistics, transportation, and design/build industries from around the region to network, build relationships and address industry and business issues in an engaging and informal setting.**

**These events are open to both members and non-members.**

**UNITED STATES -  
GALLOWAY,  
NEW JERSEY  
7-8 AUGUST 2024,  
SEAVIEW DOLCE HOTEL**

**UNITED STATES -  
KANSAS CITY  
13-14 AUGUST 2024,  
CASCADE HOTEL**

**THE NETHERLANDS -  
ROTTERDAM  
2 SEPTEMBER 2024,  
HILTON ROTTERDAM**

**Further Cold Chain Connections are planned in Singapore, Brazil, South Africa and Poland in October and November.**

**More details to be announced soon.**

**Find out more at [www.gcca.org/coldchainconnections](http://www.gcca.org/coldchainconnections)**



The Global Cold Chain Foundation (GCCF) Council of Scientific Advisors is an eminent group of food scientists, logistics, and packaging experts from around the world. The Council provides cutting-edge research and advice to members of the Global Cold Chain Alliance and its Core Sectors.



**Dr. Michael Jahncke**  
Virginia Tech University,  
Fish Products Expert  
**COUNCIL CHAIRMAN**



**Dr. Donald Fenton**  
Kansas State University,  
Refrigeration Engineering  
Expert



**Dr. Jeffrey Brecht**  
University of Florida, Cool-  
Climate Fruit & Produce Expert



**Dr. Brian Fugate**  
University of Arkansas, Supply  
Chain Management Expert



**Dr. Patrick Brecht**  
PEB Commodities, Refrigerated  
Transportation Expert



**Dr. Cody Gifford**  
University of Wyoming, Meat  
Products Expert



**Dr. Stephanie Clark**  
New Mexico State University,  
Dairy Products Expert



**Dr. Dennis Heldman**  
The Ohio State University, Food  
Process Engineering Expert



**Dr. Paul Dawson**  
Clemson University, Poultry  
Products Expert



**Dr. Faris Karim**

Kansas State University,  
Ammonia Contamination & Food  
Toxicology Expert



**Dr. Subramaniam Sathivel**

Louisiana State University,  
Frozen Food Quality Expert



**Dr. Barbara Rasco, BSE,  
Ph.D., JD**

University of Wyoming,  
Food Safety & Food Safety  
Regulations Expert



**Dr. S. Paul Singh**

Michigan State University,  
Packaging & Labeling Expert



**Dr. Debjit Roy**

Indian Institute of Management,  
Logistics & Operations Expert



**Dr. Donald Schaffner**

Rutgers, The State University of  
New Jersey, Microbiology Expert



**Dr. Victoria Salin**

Texas A&M University, Agriculture  
Economics Expert



**Dr. Elhadi Yahia**

Universidad Autónoma de  
Querétaro, Mexico, Postharvest  
Technology, Tropical Fruit &  
Produce

**Have a burning cold chain question?**  
**Submit an inquiry to the Council of Scientific Advisors**  
**at [www.gcca.org/inquiry](http://www.gcca.org/inquiry)**

# COOL SOLUTIONS

## SCIENTIFIC ANSWERS TO COLD CHAIN CHALLENGES

This section highlights a cold chain question and answer submitted through the GCCA Inquiry Service to the team of experts on the GCCF Council of Scientific Advisors (CSA) and the roster of advisors. Submit your cold chain questions to the Council of Scientific Advisors at [www.gcca.org/inquiry](http://www.gcca.org/inquiry).

**Q:** Can frozen french fries be stored next to frozen fish without emitting odors?

**A:** Make sure that the french fries and fish are completely frozen to 0 degrees F (-18 C) before they are placed in the freezer, and ensure that the packaging is intact and appropriate for these products to prevent cross contamination. These products should also not be intermingled in the freezer, so keep them on separate racks with space between.

Check out the Food Freezing and Storage Calculator, a GCCA member resource, for more assistance calculating time-to-freeze and cost-to-freeze these commodities.

*This answer was provided by Dr. Michael Jahncke, Chairman of the Council of Scientific Advisors and Fish Products Expert. 🌐*

Submit your burning cold chain questions to the Council of Scientific Advisors at [www.gcca.org/inquiry](http://www.gcca.org/inquiry) or at [inquiry@gcca.org](mailto:inquiry@gcca.org).



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Chile
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Panama
USA
Venezuela



# ASSOCIATION NEWS

NEWS ABOUT GCCA CORE PARTNERS

**GCCA** announced that Sara Goodman-Stickler has been named the organization's new President and CEO. She comes to GCCA from WTS International, an organization dedicated to creating a more diverse, inclusive and equitable transportation industry through the global advancement of women, where she served as the President and CEO since 2018. During her time at WTS she worked to set and execute WTS International's organizational strategic priorities, covering 71 chapters across North America, while also working closely with the WTS International Board of Directors to continuously assess and develop the WTS brand and the association's programs. She also worked with the WTS Foundation and its Board of Directors.

Goodman-Stickler was selected by a Search Committee chaired by Greg Laurin of Conestoga Cold Storage and made up of GCCA, GCCF and CEBA members including

Scott Albers, NOR-AM Cold Storage; Rob Chambers, Americold Logistics; Jason Dreisbach, Dreisbach Enterprises; Don Durm, PLM Fleet; Marko Dzeletovich, Coldbox Builders; Mickey Hoffmann, United States Cold Storage; Mathew Moore, Americold Logistics; and Sean Vanderelzen, Lineage. In addition, a task force of members from around the world and from small, medium and large sized companies assisted in crafting the position profile that was used to promote the President and CEO position. An international executive search firm managed the global search process along with the search committee. Goodman-Stickler will officially start September 3, 2024.



**GCCA** joined with global leaders to discuss action on frozen food temperatures at London Climate Week. It was an opportunity for the



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# ASSOCIATION NEWS

## NEWS ABOUT GCCA CORE PARTNERS

coalition of companies and associations in the “Movement to -15C” to meet.

Launched in Dubai at the UN COP28 environmental meeting, the movement is a forum in which businesses from across the world with links in the cold chain can share knowledge and ideas to drive efficiency in the storage and transportation of frozen food.

GCCA Senior Vice President for Global Communications Shane Brennan provided insights on the global regulatory considerations involved in operating at different policy references than the long-standing global set point of -18C or +5F.

Crucial contributions from experts from frozen food producers, reefer shipping leaders, storage, transportation and food service sectors were heard at the latest meeting and terms of reference, objectives and future work streams were discussed.



**GCCA** members can access a new market tracker tool that provides vital market data about the economic performance, trade flows and consumption patterns of frozen and fresh foods in 10 vital global markets.

This tool is a simple-to-use, up-to-date tracker of the major economic characteristics and trends in strategically vital cold chain markets across the world.

The market tracker reinforces our high-quality and unique education and knowledge-sharing services for our members. GCCA will be referring and using data from this tool in our news and articles, at our in-person events and as part of our training offer.



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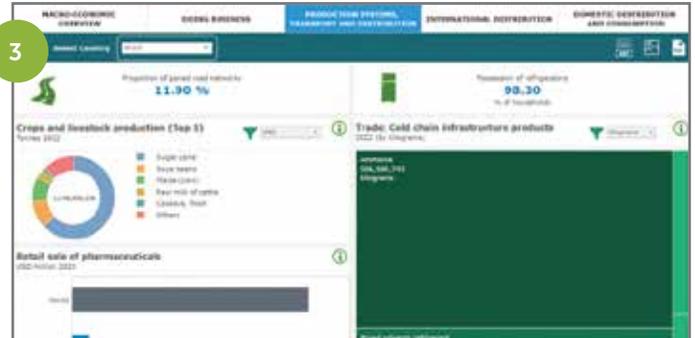


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Under \$35MM Category  
**Core X Complete**

**2023 FINALIST:**  
Over \$35MM Category  
**Sierra Supply Chain Services**

# ASSOCIATION NEWS

NEWS ABOUT GCCA CORE PARTNERS



### How to Use the Market Tracker

1. Log on at [www.gcca.org/insights](http://www.gcca.org/insights)
2. Choose the market you want to examine
3. Browse the insight tabs
4. Organize, download and reference the data in research activities 📄



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# 44<sup>TH</sup> CEBA

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### IDEA EXCHANGE WITH EXPERTS

CEBA Construction Café is to create an exchange of ideas and stimulate facilitated discussion on critical industry issues. Participants choose from 10 different topics, join the table at which the issue is being discussed, and spend 20 minutes sharing ideas. Participants then switch tables to discuss another topic.



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# MEMBER NEWS

## NEWS FROM MEMBERS OF GCCA CORE PARTNERS

**CONESTOGA COLD STORAGE** announced Phase One of a 75-Acre development near Toronto, Canada, is nearing completion and opening on schedule in November 2024. Phase Two will add an additional 10 million cubic feet to Phase One's 16 million cubic feet of space in 2025. Phase Three will bring another 20 million cubic feet online in 2026. At over 150 feet tall and with nearly 50 million cubic feet of storage, the facility will be the largest, fully automated cold storage in Canada.



(Courtesy of Conestoga Cold Storage.)

**CONSTELLATION COLD LOGISTICS** announced its acquisition from Arcus Infrastructure Partners by the EQT Infrastructure VI fund. Constellation owns and operates 26 cold storage facilities across seven countries in Western Europe and the Nordic countries. According to Constellation, its growth has been achieved with a focus on sustainability and in partnership with several original founders of businesses acquired by Constellation, who have embedded their legacy in the business. The transaction is subject to regulatory approvals and is expected to close in October 2024.



**NICHIREI LOGISTICS GROUP INC.** announced its U.K. subsidiary, Thermotrafic Ltd. (TT Ltd.), has acquired Admark Shipping Solutions Ltd., a company engaged in the

forwarding business in the United Kingdom. TT Ltd. provides a one-stop service for customs clearance, transportation, storage and value-added services for frozen goods in the United Kingdom. Admark, has experience in the export forwarding business, particularly in maritime transport services for frozen products.



**RYDER SYSTEM, INC.** has been named one of *Food Logistics'* Top Third-Party Logistics & Cold Storage Providers for the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. The award honors third-party logistics and cold storage providers operating within the cold food and beverage industry. The company's solutions include dedicated and multiclient warehousing, automation, LEAN process engineering, facility design, labor hiring and management, and collaborative visibility tools. 



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# NEW MEMBERS

## NEW MEMBER COMPANIES OF GCCA CORE PARTNERS

### GCCA WAREHOUSE MEMBERS

#### AF Cold Storage

Brampton, Ontario, Canada

#### Arctic Cold, LLC

Oxnard, California, United States

#### Daifuku Intralogistics America Corporation

Bolingbrook, Illinois, United States

#### Jolly Farm Fresh Pvt. Ltd.

Delhi, India

#### SKM Cold Storage

Pudukkottai, Tamil Nadu, India

### GCCA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

#### Arctic Sea

Mungia, Spain

#### Conveyco

Bristol, Connecticut, United States

#### E80 Group Inc.

Chicago, Illinois, United States

#### E-Distribution

Garland, Texas, United States

#### Frick India Ltd.

New Delhi, India

#### Half Associates

Richardson, Texas, United States

#### Manik Engineers

Pune, Maharashtra, India

#### Overhaul Group

Austin, Texas, United States

#### PVR Controls

Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

#### Viastore

Grand Rapids, Michigan, United States

### GCCF MEMBERS

#### Capital Impact Partners

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#### Cornerstones

Sterling, Virginia, United States

#### The Society of Saint Andrew, Inc.

Big Island, Virginia, United States

### GCCA TRANSPORTATION MEMBERS

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#### State to State Logistics LLC

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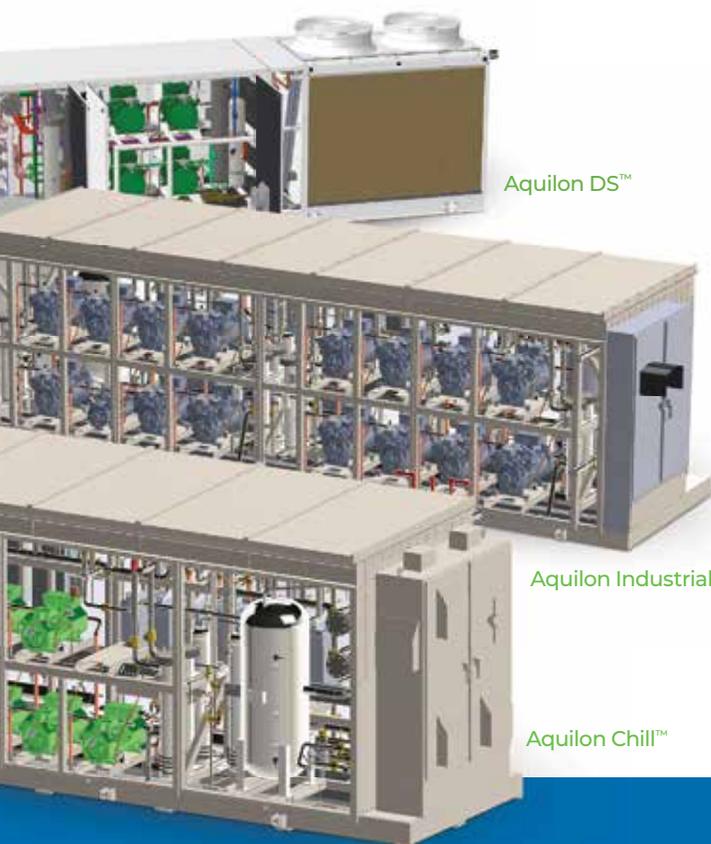
- Low charge ammonia packaged chillers from 40–400 tons at 5°F to 50°F outlet fluid
- Low charge ammonia condensing units from 30–160 tons at -20°F to 45°F SST
- Packaged cascade ammonia/CO<sub>2</sub> Systems from 40–200 tons at -20°F to -60°F pumped CO<sub>2</sub>



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- Transcritical CO<sub>2</sub> industrial racks from 50–400 tons at 40°F to -50°F SST or 50°F to -40°F fluid temperature

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## NEW MEMBER COMPANIES OF GCCA CORE PARTNERS

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### CEBA MEMBERS

**Allcon of Greenville, Inc.**  
Taylors, South Carolina, United States

**Brasfield & Gorrie**  
Nashville, Tennessee, United States

**Halff Associates**  
Richardson, Texas, United States

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