



PELICAN NEWS



Blue Skies Newsletter | December 2024 | Issue 219 | www.blueskies.com



THE GM30 2024

It was that time of the year when leaders from across various sites met to discuss the company's strategy, innovation, and key challenges and opportunities. As always, the event provided a platform for in-depth discussions on the future direction of the business. Beyond the professional exchanges, the GM30 meeting also served as a valuable opportunity for leaders to reconnect with one another, strengthening bonds and fostering collaboration across teams. With an exciting agenda focused on both growth and connection, it served as a reminder of how our diversity makes us stronger.

THE CEO'S END OF YEAR REMARKS

As the year quickly drew to a close, the CEO, Hugh Pile extended his warmest wishes to all for a joyful holiday season. In his message, he took the opportunity to express his sincere gratitude for the hard work, dedication, and unwavering commitment demonstrated by everyone throughout the year. He highlighted that it has been an exceptional year, with all sites consistently achieving outstanding results. The CEO also emphasized that the collective contributions of each individual have been vital to the company's continued success.

CLICK [HERE](#) TO VIEW THE CEO'S MESSAGE.



MONTHLY UPDATES IN EGYPT



A REMARKABLE WEEK FOR BLUE SKIES EGYPT: AUDIT SUCCESS

Egypt announces a significant achievement for Blue Skies. The team was successful in two key audits in a single week: the Asda Star Audit (food safety) and the SMETA Audit (ethical standards). These accomplishments underscore their commitment to maintaining the highest standards of quality, compliance, and ethical practices. We look forward to more success in the coming year.



HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS ON THE ARRIVAL OF NEW PRODUCTION BABY GIRL, SHAHRAZAD!

Congratulations to Eng. Ahmed El-Sayed and his family on the arrival of their beautiful daughter, Shahrazad! Wishing her a lifetime of joy, love, and blessings. May she be always protected and guided. Warmest congratulations to the proud parents!



JON BERNI IS FINALLY SAYING GOODBYE TO HIS MOUSE



Jon Berni has retired after an incredible tenure as Blue Skies' sole IT support, spanning from the days of floppy disks to AI. His dedication, often working around the clock, has kept the company connected, even attending to issues during holidays and weekends. Jon's contributions go back to the early days of Blue Skies, assisting with setup and solving countless tech problems.

Colleagues have expressed deep admiration for Jon's selflessness, problem-solving skills, and ability to go above and beyond. From managing tech across multiple countries to fixing office issues, Jon's impact has been immense. His expertise, can-do attitude, and humor will be greatly missed.

We wish you all the best!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas
and a fruitful New Year

created by Pippa





GHANA CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS THEMED: 'ASEDA NIGHT'

Blue Skies Ghana hosted its annual 'Aseda Night' Christmas event, celebrating joy, gratitude, and togetherness. Aseda, meaning 'Thank You' in the local dialect.

The event, themed around appreciation, allowed the staff to thank God for His blessings throughout the year. Staff showcased their talents through vibrant departmental song performances, with special contributions from invited guests.

The event also included the traditional reading of the 9 Lessons, narrating the birth of Jesus Christ. 'Aseda Night' was a heartwarming blend of celebration, reflection, and camaraderie, strengthening the sense of community and reminding everyone of the true meaning of Christmas.



BLUE SKIES KEEP FIT CLUB HOSTS END-OF-YEAR PARTY

The Blue Skies Keep Fit Club held a successful end-of-year party at Pelican House, celebrating fitness, fun, and unity. The event included swimming, dancing, and dining, fostering a lively atmosphere. A key highlight was the recognition of the club's fitness instructors, with members making cash donations in appreciation. The celebration marked a joyful end to the year, strengthening the club's community spirit and commitment to fitness.



MONTHLY UPDATES IN GHANA



ANNUAL TALENT SHOW AND BARBECUE PARTY

The highly anticipated Blue Skies Ghana Annual Barbecue and Talent Show Party was a tremendous success, uniting staff from all departments for a day of fun and celebration. The event showcased the team's creativity with impressive performances in singing, dancing, poetry, and comedy. A delicious barbecue added to the festive atmosphere, while participants were rewarded with hampers, juice bar vouchers, and other gifts. This gathering reinforced the company's values of teamwork, collaboration, and mutual respect, creating lasting memories and strengthening bonds among colleagues.

AUDIT SUCCESS

The Blue Skies Branded Factory successfully passed a two-day FSSC (Food Safety System Certification) audit, confirming its adherence to global food safety standards. This achievement reflects the team's dedication to delivering safe, high-quality products both in Ghana and internationally. Blue Skies continues its commitment to continuous improvement and maintaining the highest standards of excellence.



Ekramy meets with Michael, the newly appointed Process Optimization Manager at Ghana Fresh Cut, as they begin to focus on the Project Squeeze initiative.

MONTHLY UPDATES IN UK



BUILDING A FRESH FUTURE TOGETHER: COLLABORATION WITH CUSTOMER ON INNOVATION



The Corby and Pitsford teams had an inspiring meeting with one of our major UK customers focusing on innovation and upcoming products. The day provided valuable insights to the customer's strategy and vision aligning brilliantly with Blue Skies' expanding capability from all our sites.

The exchange of ideas was both energetic and inspiring coming from an alignment of our joint strategies and laying the groundwork for a strong, lasting partnership which is committed to delivering exceptional quality fresh products to their customers every single day of the year.

A big thank you to all Blue Skies sites for providing excellent fruit samples for this visit. Special thanks to the Corby site for their support in making this collaborative session a success.

MAGICAL DECEMBER WITH CHRISTMAS CHEER

Blue Skies Factory had a magical December, kicking off with a festive Christmas Lunch on the 17th, where the team gathered to enjoy good food, laughter, and celebrate their hard work and friendships. A Secret Santa exchange added to the fun with thoughtful gifts.

A new tradition was introduced with the inaugural Blue Skies Awards, recognizing eight outstanding individuals for their contributions.

Awardees included

Micky R. for positivity, Ioana C. for reliability, Karolina C. for helpfulness, Beata S. and Indre V. for creativity, Donatas V. for problem-solving, Mateusz B. for his style, and Aneta P. for keeping everyone informed.

The festivities continued on the 29th with a Christmas Party organized by the Social Committee, featuring Mateusz as DJ, creating a night of music, joy, and togetherness. It was a heartwarming way to close out the year, with anticipation for more moments to come.



MONTHLY UPDATES IN BRAZIL



KIRSTY AND CHLOE VISIT BRAZIL FACTORY

At the beginning of the month, Kirsty and Chloe visited the Brazil factory to assess its operations, explore local fruit varieties, and meet the local team. They toured CEAGESP, the third-largest wholesale food center globally, to discover new trends and taste local fruits. At the factory, they observed production processes for new products under the Project Nova initiative and conducted training on the NPD procedure with teams from various departments involved in product development.



BLUE SKIES BRASIL HONORED BY MESA BRASIL FOR GENEROUS MANGO DONATIONS

Mesa Brasil, a social program under Sesc (Serviço Social do Comércio), aims to combat hunger and food waste by redistributing surplus food to charitable organizations serving low-income communities. In December, Blue Skies Brasil was honored at a tribute organized by Mesa Brasil for its contributions of ripe mangos. Crislane Gonzaga, Raw Material Supervisor, and Gabriela Procópio, Production Inspector, represented the company at the event, where the program recognized Blue Skies' ongoing support.



CHEMICAL HANDLING SAFETY TRAINING SESSIONS

The Quality Team organized two essential safety training sessions to improve chemical handling practices. The first, held on November 29, focused on FISPQ assessments, safety pictograms, product compatibility, PPE usage, and spill response. A follow-up session on December 10 covered correct chemical product use, Hommel Diamond analysis, chemical labeling, PPE, collective protection equipment (EPC), and the safe disposal of used drums. These initiatives aimed to reinforce safety protocols and best practices for chemical handling within the organization.



DECEMBER SPECIAL DRAWS: CELEBRATING ATTENDANCE AND CHRISTMAS



In December, two special draws were held. The first rewarded employees with perfect attendance in October and November, without medical certificates, early departures, delays, or absences, helping maintain a strong attendance record. The second draw, celebrating Christmas, was open to all employees (permanent, temporary, and third-party) and included prizes donated by suppliers, service providers, and partners. On December 20th, in addition to the raffle, a special Christmas lunch was served in the company canteen, providing a joyful and interactive experience for everyone involved.

MONTHLY UPDATES IN BENIN



A JOYOUS HO HO HO IN BENIN

Blue Skies Benin celebrated Christmas with Father Noel and Caleta, spending magical moments with the orphans of Orpenilat Claudio Migneco. The children sent heartfelt kisses and deep thanks to Blue Skies for their support.

Additionally, as part of the year-end festivities, fountain kits were distributed to all staff, spreading joy and gratitude. The staff expressed sincere thanks to the management for the thoughtful gesture.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE TRAINING



This month managers from Ghana, Benin, and Senegal, had a training session on enhancing personal development and emotional intelligence. The program aimed to equip participants with valuable skills to strengthen their leadership capabilities, fostering growth and emotional awareness in the workplace. Managers from all three countries actively engaged in the training, gaining new insights to support both personal and professional development.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

This month Afoussatou Amadou, Urbaine and Sandrya Takolodjou, the Director of Production celebrated their birthday. The occasion was filled with warmth and well wishes, as everyone expressed their heartfelt support. "We are with you in spirit, wishing you all the best," was the message shared during the celebration.



BLUE SKIES FOUNDATION AND GIZ OFFER ESSENTIAL MEDICAL SCREENINGS IN NSAWAM ADOAGYIRI



Blue Skies foundation, in partnership with GIZ, conducted a comprehensive medical screening program in the Nsawam Adoagyiri Municipality before the festive season. The initiative aimed to provide essential healthcare services to students, teachers, and market women, addressing health concerns and promoting preventive care. The screenings covered various health indicators such as blood pressure, vision, and dental health. Market women received screenings tailored to their specific needs. The program emphasized health education and awareness, empowering individuals to prioritize their well-being. Over 1,500 people benefited from the initiative, which was praised for its positive impact on the community's health.

Speaking about the program, Alistair Djimatey, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on the lives of community members. "We are proud to work alongside GIZ to provide essential medical screenings to students and market women in Nsawam Adoagyiri Municipality just before the festivities. Our goal is to support the health and well-being of individuals in the community, and we are committed to continuing our efforts in promoting a culture of wellness."

