

PELICAN NEWS

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BLUE SKIES WIN TOP PRIZE IN FPC FRESH AWARDS 2022

INDUSTRY AWARDS

FPC FRESH AWARDS

On Friday 16th September, Blue Skies and FRESHPPACT attended the FPC Fresh Awards 2022 held in London. The Fresh Produce Consortium (FPC) is the United Kingdom's fresh produce trade association and is widely recognised as the voice of the UK industry.

Blue Skies were finalists in a number of categories including 'Fruit & Veg Supermarket Supplier of the Year', 'Best Place to Work' and 'Sustainability Excellence' alongside FRESHPPACT who were also finalists in the 'Sustainability Excellence' Award. We are thrilled to say that Blue Skies won the award for 'Supermarket Fruit & Veg Supplier of the Year' and 'Fresh Produce Business of the Year'! Two incredible awards which we are so proud of and that truly highlights the amazing work of our people across the business. A huge well done to everyone at Blue Skies!!





FRANCE WELCOMES NEW PRODUCTS TO MARKET

NEW LAUNCHES

CARREFOUR

We are delighted to announce the launch of two new products, our Smooth Cayenne Pineapple and PGI Sugarloaf Pineapple from the Plateau d'Allada in Benin, into the French market.

Our hand picked Sugarloaf from the Allada region has the PGI Status - (Protected Geographical Indication) which is the true mark of quality.

The logo presents the product being grown in an area that has quality status, in a beautiful landscape with rich soil quality, good growing conditions and good farming practices that enable us to provide consumers with the very best quality pineapple products.

In a major breakthrough, due to the unique freshness of the product, we are also able to increase the shelf life of the products - driving down wastage across the supply chain and helping to cut the 10 million tonnes of food wasted in France each year.

Available throughout France, our delicious Smooth Cayenne and Sugar Loaf pineapple can be eaten alone as a snack, used in a wide range of tasty recipes or with mixed other fruits in a delicious fruit salad.

THE ALLADA PLATEAU

BENIN

PINEAPPLE FARMS



The Allada Plateau is located in the south of Benin, West Africa and is ideal pineapple growing ground due to the climate and the soil quality. Ripened naturally in the fields, we do not use chemicals to accelerate ripening, unlike other production systems. We just allow the ideal climatic conditions to naturally ripen our pineapples which are then handpicked at the moment of perfect ripeness, delivering a unique and delicious fruit - which we believe is the most perfect pineapple - being both sweet and fragrant.





BLUE SKIES BRAZIL CELEBRATE THEIR 15 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!

BRAZIL

ANNIVERSARY

On the 24th September, Blue Skies Brazil completed 15 years of operations. To celebrate this date, the canteen company served a special lunch with decorations and a birthday cake. Congratulations to Blue Skies Brazil!



BLUE SKIES WIN 'TASTE OF THE YEAR' AWARD IN FRANCE

INDUSTRY AWARDS

TASTE OF THE YEAR



We are excited to announce that Blue Skies have won the Saveur de l'Année "Taste of the Year Award" for 2023 for 3 products; Pineapple (Sweet Cayenne), Pineapple (Sugarloaf PGI) and Pomegranate! This award is widely recognised by all French consumers, and demonstrates the quality of our products. Congratulations to Cécile who has led this project, and all of the Blue Skies team. The success of this project is the result of the efforts of the whole Blue Skies team, and we are very proud to be part of it.

BRAZIL HOLD INTERNAL ACCIDENT PREVENTION AND ENVIRONMENT WEEK

BRAZIL

EVENTS

During September, Blue Skies Brazil held several days to celebrate their SIPATMA - Internal Accident Prevention and Environment Week. During the event, they had several lectures on various topics such as eye health, mental health and wellbeing, the environment and areas around health and safety at work. This was a well attended and engaging week for the team.

Below is a photo of Flavia, our Brazil General manager along with the leadership team who took part in several discussions where they presented indicators from the satisfaction survey and action plan, Blue Skies Brazil results, improvements and implementations that were carried out in all our processes, challenges and projects for the future, among other topics.



ANTHONY VISITS THE TEAM IN BENIN

BLUE SKIES

BENIN



Anthony recently visited our Benin site, and met with Elisee Gbemetonou, the General Manager, and several farmers to help review plans for the future, and prepare for the upcoming planning meetings. Above is a photo of our Benin site where staff often remark on the beautiful setting in their green place of work. To the right is Anthony with Alla Valerie, the papaya farmer and Elisee.

CORBY TAKE IN THE SIGHTS IN THE CITY

CORBY

TEAM DAYS

On Friday 16th September, members of Blue Skies Corby enjoyed their long-awaited trip to London. The group visited the London Eye, Big Ben, and Buckingham Palace in a short time and the team were able to pay their respects to Queen Elizabeth II. Delicious food was enjoyed in China Town and they also made time to visit St. Paul Cathedral.

A great day out had by all sight seeing and enjoying some time together in the city.



BLUE SKIES PITSFORD MACMILLAN FUNDRAISER

FUNDRAISER

MACMILLAN



If you would like to donate, please click the picture above or go to:
www.justgiving.com/fundraising/blueskieswalkforsara



On Friday 30th September, members of Blue Skies Pitsford team took part in a Macmillan Coffee Morning. The Coffee Morning is Macmillan's biggest fundraising event to support people living with cancer. Every September, people of Blue Skies past and present and their families come together to walk around Pitsford Reservoir in memory of Sara Brookes.

Sara worked at Blue Skies for 15 years and was a trusted friend and colleague to all who knew her. A big THANK YOU to everyone who baked, bought, eat, donated, walked and supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning/Lunch and Walk for Sara. From online and offline donations, both events have so far raised almost £450!

BLUEPRINT SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY

WHAT YOU TOLD US

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Blueprint sustainability survey. The results show that your top 5 priorities for action are Greenhouse Gas Emissions, water, energy, training and development, sustainable materials (including plastics). The top 5 topics you would like to see more information on in future Blueprint reports are Training and Development, Water, Energy, Fair Pay and Remuneration and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. These results will help us as we develop our action plans for 2023 and further develop our reporting to meet the needs of our stakeholders.

FRESHPPACT VIRTUAL WORKSHOP EXPLORES POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

FRESHPPACT

INNOVATION WORKSHOP

On the 28th September, a virtual FRESHPPACT Technical and Innovation workshop was held which provided additional insight on our three plastic challenge funds and gave participants the opportunity to engage and connect with innovators, solutions providers, and technical experts to discuss potential ideas and synergies. You can view a recording of the Challenge Brief presentations at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzjLDHg4dvE



**CLICK THE PHOTO
TO TAKE YOU TO
THE RECORDING**



SUPPLIER SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY

We are getting in touch with our suppliers to complete our 2022 supplier sustainability survey, to help us understand the social and environmental impacts within our supply chain and where there may be opportunities for us to work together to build on the great work that's already being achieved.

You can access the survey at:
<https://forms.gle/CA4PRJS73REjVwuy8>

Please complete this survey by 31st October 2022.

THE FELIX PROJECT LATEST UPDATES



THE FELIX PROJECT

FOOD BANK

Each month, we support The Felix Project through donations of surplus fresh fruit. Whilst we continue to work towards minimising our waste, often there is surplus fruit which is donated to projects like The Felix Project. In August, our monthly contributions have been 2,976 Kgs which has contributed to 7,085 meals. With the ever-growing demand for food banks amongst record high food prices, we know supporting The Felix Project plays a vital role in helping to feed the community. For more details, visit thefelixproject.org.

WEST AFRICA TEAMS CELEBRATE THE END OF THE SEASON

WEST AFRICA

CELEBRATIONS



After a successful and busy major season, the team in Senegal celebrated with a get together at the beach. The team enjoyed coming together to celebrate all of their hard work over the last few months. A big congrats to the team!

MEET AFOUSSATOU

HR



Afoussatou Amadou joined the Blue Skies Benin team in September. She has three degrees in environmental studies and sustainability, works with the team in the effluent treatment plant to ensure the management of the waste water system. As an environmentalist, the greenery around the Benin factory excites her. She is committed to the protection of the environment and the preservation of biodiversity and the ecosystem on site. Afoussatou has already begun a tree planting exercise around “Lake Victoria” at the factory in Benin. She has enjoyed her stay in Blue Skies so far and is looking forward to contributing to achieving our Blue Print goals. She says “the working environment, the vision and culture embodied in the company interests me hugely”.

WELCOME LOUISE!



Blue Skies welcome the arrival of Louise Lawrence who started in September as our Holdings HR business partner. Louise brings with her a wealth of experience having worked for the highly respected produce business Keelings for 16 years. Welcome to Blue Skies Louise!

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to Ana Rubia, our financial assistant in our Brazil team who got married on the 10th September! Congratulations to you both!

WELCOME MOHAMED!



We welcome and congratulate Mohamed Elhelly who started recently as our Engineering Manager in Egypt. We know he will going to be a valuable asset to our company, and can't wait to see what he will accomplish.

CONGRATS EID ELHOSSARY



Eid has recently been promoted to the Sales Manager position after his previous position as the BSJ sales manager's assistant for the last 4 years, Eid leads the Sales department for the last 3 months, Eid and his assistant "Tarek" led and succeeded to increase all prices for all customers and adding the Rixos hotel chains to our customer list within a very short time. It's terrific to see that his hard work and achievements have been recognised. Congratulations Eid!



Anthony is currently in Ghana and above is a photo of him speaking to the new British High Commissioner Harriet, at a breakfast meeting.