

CPMA 2009



Ocean Mist Farms in Castroville, CA, has introduced two new artichoke bags, which were on display at the CPMA convention in Toronto. Bob Polovneff is shown with a two-count size-18 artichoke bag, which has an easy-to-carry handle and a zip top bag, while Brian Hawes displayed a similar product in a four-count pack that is sold in Costco.



Shown donning authentic National Hockey League jerseys that were raffled off to convention attendees were Steve Marinello, Dave Mixon, Mayda Sotomayor and Steve Tursi of Seald Sweet International. The raffle winners, which were announced May 13, were Guy Cameron of Loblaw's (Montreal Canadiens jersey), Jim Shepherd of Provincial Fruit Co. Ltd. (Toronto Maple Leafs jersey), Byron Bellows of Coleman's (Canadian Olympic jersey) and Glenn Baty of Star Produce (Calgary Flames jersey).



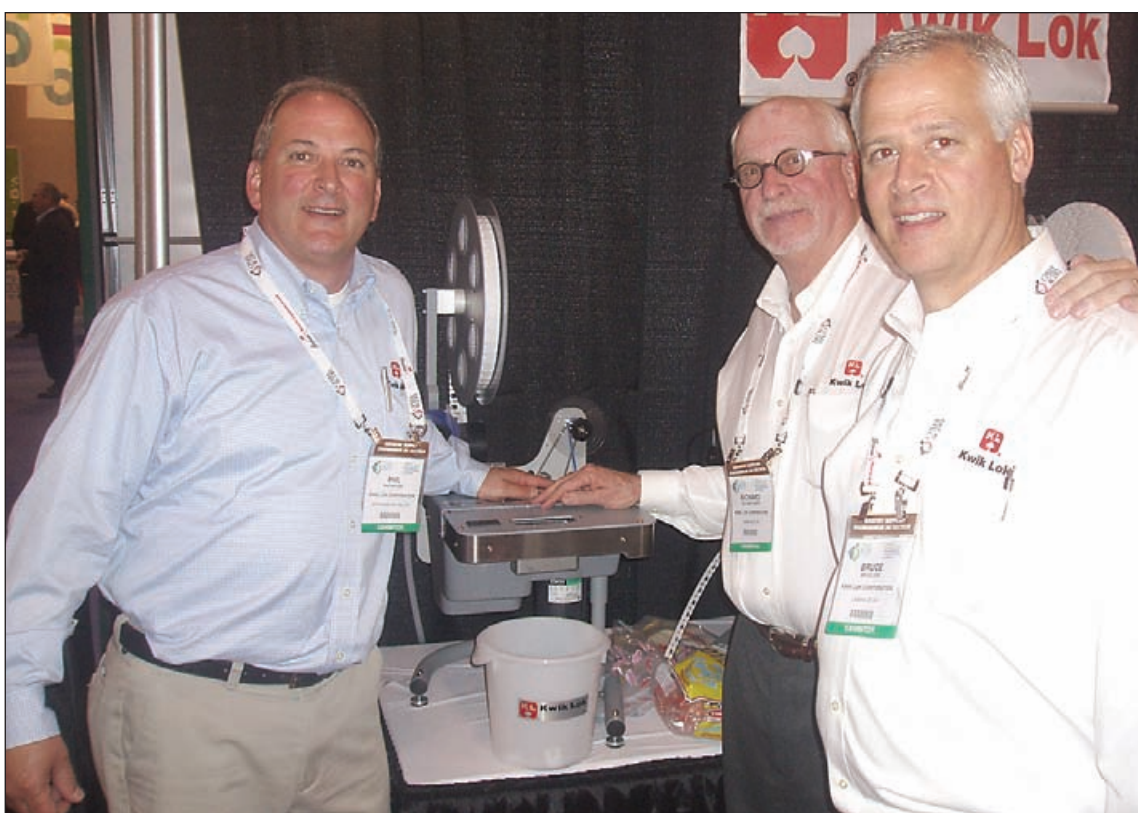
At left: At the Kurt Zuhke & Associates booth, Kurt Zuhke displayed his company's line of clamshells that are now manufactured using recycled PET plastics, making it an environmentally friendly option for consumers.



At right: Gil Turner (center), director of produce merchandising and purchasing for Metro Ontario Inc.'s Loeb division, stopped to say hello to Tom Huculiak and Martin Cousineau of Les Jardins Paul Cousineau & Fils Inc. Mr. Turner will be retiring later this year after 24 years of service at Loeb.



Andrew Willis of the Washington State Fruit Commission was on hand at the CPMA convention in Toronto promoting the state's cherry crop, which he said will approach a record this year, with a projected 16 million to 18 million boxes. 'We had a really nice bloom and pollination, so it's lining up well,' he said. To help move the heavy volume, Mr. Willis said that the commission will be promoting it through advertising, sampling programs and in-store radio and television spots. He also said that National Rainier Cherry Day, which occurs July 11, will help bring awareness to the crop at the peak time of harvest.



Kwik Lok Corp., a Cambridge, ON, manufacturer of semiautomatic and automatic bag-closing machines, bag tensioners, imprinters and conveyors, debuted its new 898 machine, which prints on locks for hand applications. The new machine is an inexpensive option geared toward small, specialized, hand-pack applications. Demonstrating the machine at the recent CPMA convention in Toronto were Phil Pettine, Richard Runte and Bruce Cox.