

Blue Skies Newsletter | August/September 2019 | Issue 157 | www.blueskies.com

### Blue Skies launches 2018/2019 Blueprint Sustainability Report











Blue Skies today launch our 2018/2019 Blueprint Report, which we have called our **Joint Effort Enterprise Annual Statement.** 

The document is the most comprehensive report on our sustainability ever published and is designed to provide all our stakeholders with an overview of our business, our approach to sustainability and our performance against each of the ten priorities that were identified for 2019.

The full report can be downloaded from our website at: www.blueskies.com/jee2019.pdf









#### **JOINT EFFORT ENTERPRISE**

2018/2019 Annual Statement

a report on our BLUEPRINT

## BLUEPRINT

## **Enter our 2019 Blueprint Awards**



The 2019 Blueprint Awards are still open. If you've been involved in a project that has helped make a difference to people or the environment, or

you would like to nominate someone who has, please share the good news by entering our Blue Print Awards and stand a chance of winning a fitness watch!

You can enter the awards at: www.blueskies.com/blueprintawards

## Tell us your **2020** priorities



Following the publication of our 2018/19 Blueprint report, we are consulting on what our priorities should be for 2020. We're asking all our stakeholders to participate, so we welcome you to express your views by completing our quick survey at:

www.blueskies.com/haveyoursay



### **BIG BRAND UPDATE** The Audit Report

### **Blue Skies launch in Dubai**



Blue Skies has launched its brand in the United Arab Emirates. The first container of fresh-cut fruit and juice from arrived in Dubai from Ghana this week. Our new style branded juice (pictured) and fresh-cut fruit can be found on the shelves of Choithram's stores in Dubai.

## **Blue Skies exhibits at UK Speciality Fine Food Fair**



Blue Skies recently exhibited at the Speciality Fine Food Fair in London where it showcased its ice-cream to potential new buyers across the UK. UK Brand Manager, Rich Railton, and Global Brand Manager, Brian Bircham, are pictured above at the fair. Blue Skies will also be exhibiting at Fruit Attraction in Madrid on October 22-24.





Blue Skies have had yet more very successful audits. In early August Blue Skies Ghana returned from a bank holiday to find itself subject to an unannounced BRC audit. The factory passed in flying colours and received zero non-conformances from the auditor. The team are pictured above. Blue Skies Senegal also received zero non conformances for their GlobalGap audit and achieved a GOLD standard Tesco. Well done to all our teams who continue to demonstrate how we work to exceptionally high standards for all our customers.

### Blue Skies win 2019 'Made in Ghana' Awards



Blue Skies picked up Best Freezones Company of the Year and our Mango, Orange and Banana juice won Best Fresh Juice of the Year at the Made in Ghana Awards which was held at the Kimpeski Hotel in Accra. Alistair Djimatey is pictured above receiving the award.



### **Foundation Focus**

AN UPDATE ON OUR LATEST PROJECTS



# **New kitchen completed in South Africa**

The Blue Skies Foundation has completed a project in South Africa to provide a new kitchen for a secondary school in Siyathemba. The new facility (pictured above) will enable Setseng secondary school to prepare healthy and nutritious meals in a safe and clean environment for over 650 pupils who attend the school.

# Meet the new Brazil Foundation committee

Blue Skies Brazil have started the process to implement their first Foundation projects here in 2020. The team have also formed a Foundation committee made up of Production Manager Daniele, HR Manager Angelo and Flavia, the General Manager (pictured below with Denzil).



### Ghana team take part in Ghana Grand bicycle ride



A team from Blue Skies (pictured) recently took part in the final leg of a 1,000 km ride across Ghana to raise funds for Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital in Ghana. The race was organised by British High Commissioner to Ghana lan Walker. Team Blue Skies took part in the ride from Tema to the finishing line at Black Star Square.

### Sally to repeat Shine Night Walk for charity



Mervat's daughter, Sally El-Ghazali, will be taking part in the London Shine Night walk half Marathon on September the 19th for the second year running, in aid of Cancer Research.

The family have been inspired to do the walk again after hearing about the courage of George, who has been fighting this terrible disease since the start of 2019.

If you would like to make a donation, you can do so via their fundraising page at: https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/team/el-ghazali-family-team-take-2

## **Ghana's Minister for Trade visits Blue Skies**



Ghana's Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr Alan Kyerematen, recently visited Blue Skies to the tour the facility and hear about some of the challenges facing businesses in Ghana. During the visit, Blue Skies Founder, Anthony Pile, raised concerns about free trade between West African countries. Mr Kyerematen said the Government was working to remove obstacles that impede the free flow of goods from Ghana to countries in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) sub-region



### **Sombu celebrates ten years at Blue Skies**



Congratulations to Sombu Nkosi, Financial Manager at Blue Skies South Africa, on her ten year anniversary with the business. Sombu joined Blue Skies SA on the 1st of August 2009 as a Financial Accountant until 2012 when she was appointed to the role of Financial Manager. Sombu holds a National Diploma in Cost & Management Accounting, and registered with the South African Institute of Professional Accountants in 2017. She would like to thank Blue Skies for all the support she received in helping to develop her career. She appreciates the experience and loves the Blue Skies culture of enabling its employees to flourish. HR Manager, Waydu Nhlapo said "we can never repay your effort but we need to tell you this: you have made every difference in this company. Happy anniversary we hope that we will see more of you in the following years to come".

### Mohamed Bahgat appointed Egypt GM

Congratulations to Mohamed Baghat (pictured) who has been appointed our new General Manager at Blue Skies Egypt. Mohamed has been with the business since 2003, most recently as our Technical Manager in Egypt.



## **New faces join Pitsford team**



A number of new faces have recently joined the team in Pitsford. Mark Crawford (pictured) has joined as our new Sales and Marketing Director. In addition, Laurence Egboyo has recently joined our operations team, Seija Langley has joined finance and Katherine Wilson has come on board our procurement team. A warm welcome to everyone who has recently joined our growing Blue Skies family.

## **Blue Skies Graduations**





Congratulations to Hella Lipper (pictured top) and Rebecca Brightwell (pictured bottom) who have both recently celebrated graduating.

Our Technical Manager, Stephan Morris said "Hella received her masters degree on 'The effect of edible coatings on the shelf life of ripened bananas' last month from Cranfield University and Nottingham University. She started this work while she was employed with Waitrose and completed it after starting her current role with Blue Skies. She has done exceptionally well to achieve this prestigious masters award whilst working full time for two different employers, swimming up and down the Thames and looking after 'him indoors'! I know that the trials and analyses were not without difficulties for Hella, and it would have been so easy to give in to the temptation to stop studying, but she did not. Many congratulations to Hella for her success!"

Rebecca recently graduated with BSc Honours in Educational & Development Psychology and has recently left the business to work with children with special needs in a school for 16 to 18 year olds. Many congratulations to Rebecca and thank you for all your support at Blue

### **Blue Skies launches the Chairman's Award**

This year, as part of our Blueprint Awards, we've introduced the Chairman's Award. This award is for any individual within Blue Skies who has gone above and beyond to go the extra mile for the business. It could be someone who has gone to extraordinary lengths to fulfil a vital task, consistently demonstrated incredible commitment, hard-work and loyalty, achieved something exceptional for the business against all the odds. If you know someone who you think deserves to be recognised, please nominate them by clicking the link below: <a href="https://www.blueskies.com/nominate">https://www.blueskies.com/nominate</a>

The deadline for nominations is 30 September 2019. One winner will be selected by Anthony at the beginning of October.

