

BLUE SKIES PELICAN NEWS

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BLUE SKIES SA @20

ANNIVERSARY

BLUE SKIES SA

BSSA was established in 2003 and went into production in February 2004, with 35 general staff and 4 administrative personnels, becoming the third of many of Blue Skies' operations. Till date, BSSA employs over 400 permanent employees and over 1500 seasonal employees. A heartfelt acknowledgment to Anthony Pile for being the pioneer of such a magnificent operation.

The certificate of long service was awarded to the 2004 team at the event that was held on the 21st of September, looking forward to many more years of Blue Skies SA.

PEOPLE OF BLUE SKIES- MEET ANNAH MOTLOUNG-MAZIBUKO

Annah is a Supervisor at the Avocado factory, she joined BSSA in 2004, delivering her speech at the 20th anniversary celebration ceremony she said:

"I would like to honour the founder of Blue Skies Anthony Pile. Directors, Managers, and the Staff. It is with great pleasure and privilege to speak on behalf of the Blue Skies South Africa's core group, what a wonderful and unbelievable journey it has been over the past 20 years! It was just 35 of us when BSSA started, it was not easy, we were working long hours, but through all of that we never complained, looking back, it is so funny how happy and excited we were to be part of this journey, we were all pushed and revived by the Blue skies' culture of fairness, transparency, respect and supporting one another, the culture kept us strong and we overcame many challenges."

Annah paid a tribute to Andre Veldsman for driving the SA business, and humorously encouraged the managers to take after Andre by greeting and interacting with everyone on site. She also cheered Juan McHattie as he drives SA to the future!



MONTHLY FOCUS IN BRAZIL

BLUE SKIES BRAZIL CELEBRATES 17TH ANNIVERSARY

17th Anniversary

This month, Blue Skies Brazil proudly celebrated its 17th anniversary, a significant milestone representing determination and innovation.

To commemorate the occasion, a festive prize raffle was held, focusing on the absenteeism campaign, bringing employees together to celebrate their achievements and envision future goals. The event highlighted the strong community fostered over the years, built on collaboration and support. Heartfelt gratitude was expressed to all employees for their hard work and commitment, which have been vital to the company's success.

Looking ahead, there is optimism for continued innovation and impact in the industry, as the company aspires to reach new heights in the years to come.



YELLOW SEPTEMBER CAMPAIGN



Health

Tranning



This month, our organization launched the Yellow September campaign to promote mental health awareness and suicide prevention. The initiative aims to foster open discussions about mental health, create a supportive environment, and encourage individuals to express their feelings through writing. We kicked off the campaign with vibrant posters featuring motivational messages to inspire hope and resilience within our community. Additionally, we provided a platform for employees to share their emotions and experiences, thereby breaking the stigma surrounding mental health issues. The campaign is particularly significant given the alarming statistic that around 13,000 people commit suicide annually in Brazil, highlighting the urgent need for awareness and support. Collaborating with the Committee for the Integration of People at Work (CIPA), we informed employees about the campaign's importance and available resources. As we progress through Yellow September, we stress the importance of continued engagement in conversations about mental health. By fostering an environment of support and understanding, we aim to empower individuals to seek help and promote overall mental well-being. Together, we can make a meaningful impact in preventing suicide and encouraging healing and hope.

EMERGENCY BRIGADE TRAINING

we conducted practical training with the emergency brigade, focused on the use of fire extinguishers. Safety is a non-negotiable priority in our company, and this training is essential to ensure everyone knows how to handle the equipment and how to act in emergency situations. We appreciate the active participation of everyone involved, who helps maintain a safe work environment.



MONTHLY FOCUS IN GHANA

GHANA HEALTH

BEYOND THE RIBBON: BREAST CANCER AWARENESS 2024

Blue Skies Ghana participated in Breast Cancer Awareness Month with the theme: “NO ONE SHOULD FACE BREAST CANCER ALONE.” The week-long event focused on education, prevention, and community support. It began with a session on the complexities of breast cancer, highlighting the importance of early detection, followed by a hands-on demonstration of breast self-examination.

A powerful testimony from a breast cancer survivor shared personal experiences, and free screenings were offered to encourage proactive health checks. Staff had the opportunity to ask questions, fostering an open and supportive environment. An inter-departmental quiz tested knowledge on breast cancer, with the warehouse team emerging as the winners.

The event concluded with the presentation of souvenirs to the quiz winners and impactful closing remarks emphasizing the ongoing need for awareness. Blue Skies reinforced its commitment to supporting those affected by breast cancer through education, engagement, and community building.



CELEBRATIONS AND RETIREMENT



Mr. Doe receiving his honoring citation

After 25 years of dedicated service, the management and staff of Blue Skies' engineering department celebrated Mr. Emmanuel Doe for his commitment to the company. Mr. Doe, who joined Blue Skies in February 1998, continued to serve until he fell ill in 2015. On his 60th birthday, October 31, 2024, management team led by the general manager visited him, expressing gratitude for his positive attitude, tireless effort, and significant contributions to the company. Mr. Doe's reliability and inspiring spirit will always be remembered by the company.



Mr. Amo receiving his honoring citation

Mr. Samuel Amo, a well-known and respected member of the engineering department at Blue Skies Ghana, retired after a decade of dedicated service. Having joined the company in 2014, Mr. Amo retired on October 11, 2024. Management and staff celebrated his hard work, dedication, and the respect he showed towards his colleagues and the company. He will be fondly remembered for his humility, respect for all, and his infectious laughter.

MONTHLY FOCUS IN BENIN



BIRTHDAY

ANDRE VELDSMAN JOINS THE 50+ CLUB AND STILL LEADING THE WAY!

October 29th, 2024, marked a milestone for Blue Skies' Group General Manager, Andre Veldsman, as he turned 50. Surrounded by colleagues Eloise, Sandra, Elisee, and Laurencia in Benin, Andre celebrated 21 years of dedication to the company.

Andre's leadership has driven growth and excellence in all our sites. Now, as he joins the 50+ Club, he proves age is just a number. With his over 50 membership approved by Anthony Pile and Stephan Morris, Andre's excitement is visible like a bright blue sky on a sunny day, reflecting the warmth and energy of Blue Skies' dynamic team.

Andre's journey showcases the value of experience and leadership. As he embarks on this new chapter, Blue Skies benefits from his wisdom and strategic thinking.

Here's to Many More Years!

Join us in congratulating Andre on his milestone birthday. We look forward to his continued guidance and innovative spirit.

Happy 50th Birthday, Andre!



MONTHLY FOCUS IN EGYPT



"BLOOMING OF EGYPTIAN MANGO & POMEGRANATE SEASON"

success

During the big mango and pomegranate season in Egypt, we would like to share with you some excerpts from the season.

The team in Egypt achieves great success in producing pomegranates and mango with the highest quality and conforming to customer specifications, despite the large volume of orders and the large number of new comers during the season.

All team members work together to achieve the season's goals and overcome challenges. As a result of this cooperation and hard work, products of the highest quality are produced with all love for our customers.

Our pomegranate and mango products have very special features, as pomegranates have amazing and attractive colors, sweet taste, and fresh aroma. As for the mango, its texture is very good and its taste is more than wonderful and fresh.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who participated in this success, and we also strive to continue, develop and achieve more successes.



BLUE SKIES FOUNDATION LAUNCHED THE ENABLE PROGRAM IN GHANA



FOUNDATION

LAUNCH

The Blue Skies Foundation has launched the ENABLE (Enabling New and Budding Local Enterprise) Program in Ghana, aimed at empowering local entrepreneurs. The initiative provides training and support to enhance skills and productivity. The launch event featured a prerecorded introduction by Anthony, an inspiring talk by the guest speaker Johnson Dussey, CEO of Woodin Homes, and speeches from Erik, Ruth, and Alistair highlighted the program's focus on fostering creativity, entrepreneurship, and business development.

Ten candidates were selected from 116 applications to pitch their innovative business ideas to a panel, with projects ranging from poultry farming using black soldier flies to software development. Denzil emphasized the program's goal of nurturing a culture of entrepreneurship among the youth and driving economic growth in local communities. Participant Michael Oppong Asomani noted that the program is paving the way for a more inclusive and prosperous future for the community.



TESCO VISITED GHANA AND BENIN

Tesco recently visited Blue Skies West Africa to explore the company's operations, sustainability efforts, and community impact. The visit included tours of Blue Skies' fruit processing factories in Ghana and Benin, farms, compost site, and Foundation Projects, offering a comprehensive view of the company's work.

The Tesco team saw firsthand the advanced facilities and stringent quality control measures at Blue Skies' factories, as well as the company's commitment to ethical sourcing and sustainability. They also learned about Blue Skies' sustainable farming practices, which promote biodiversity and support local farmers through training initiatives.

Additionally, the visit highlighted Blue Skies' community-focused projects, including a Day Care at Nsawam Prisons and Dobro JHS, where Tesco engaged with beneficiaries to understand the positive impact of these initiatives. Interactions with local communities provided deeper insights into the region's social and economic challenges, showcasing how Blue Skies is making a difference through its responsible business practices.

Overall, the visit reinforced Blue Skies' dedication to quality, sustainability, and community development, underscoring its ongoing partnership with Tesco in promoting ethical sourcing and social responsibility in the region.

PRAYER FOR TREES

other News



As part of our sustainability strategy, trees are planted during the commissioning of projects in Ghana. Recently, 25 seedlings were planted at the inauguration of the Damang Junior High School, constructed by the Blue Skies Foundation. We thought the only ingredients for tree growth were sunshine, water, and minerals from the soil, we were unaware however, that Janet Lutterodt, the General Manager, had a secret recipe.

While dignitaries and guests busily dug and planted, Janet was spotted off to the side, praying fervently over her seedling. We exchanged curious glances, wondering if she was seeking divine guidance for her tree's growth or simply needed a break from the scorching sun.

The wait lasted 365 days, and then something remarkable happened. Janet's tree had grown three times faster than ours! Was it coincidence or divine intervention? The real miracle lies not just in the growth, but in the belief itself, much like how faith flourishes in the garden of wonder.

STEPHAN MORRIS' NEW RECRUIT

We encountered a new recruit in the Benin ops room this morning waiting patiently for his induction training.

