

United Fresh 2013 New Product Award Finalists Revealed

More than 30 fresh fruit and vegetable products are in the running for United Fresh Produce Association's 2013 New Product Awards. This year's finalists will vie in five categories for the title of Best New Products at United Fresh 2013, slated for May 14-16 in San Diego.

"These products represent the new approaches, ideas and processes that are driving the fresh fruit and vegetable industry forward," noted John Toner, VP of convention & industry relations at the Washington, D.C.-based organization. "From its very beginnings, the United show has been the undisputed home of innovation for the produce industry, and these awards continue to showcase the best and brightest minds in the produce business."

"It is a vital mission of the United trade show to foster and applaud the latest innovations that are advancing the fresh produce industry," added <u>United Fresh</u> CEO Tom Stenzel. "The foresight and creativity of our member companies in bringing these new products to market undeniably boosts value to the consumer and increases profitability for the industry."

The 2013 finalists will be showcased in the United Fresh Membership Booth, #754, on the trade show floor. The winner in each category will be chosen by total attendee votes received as of p.m. on Thursday, May 16, with the winners to be unveiled at the Membership Booth on Thursday, May 16 at 4 p.m.

The nominees are as follows:

Best New Food Safety Solution: ThermoTrace TTI, DeltaTRAK; FoodLink Item, FoodLink; Pimware, Pimware

Best New Fruit Product: CantaBella, C.H. Robinson Worldwide; Flavorz, Crunch Pak; Ready Pac Bistro Fruit Salads, Ready Pac Foods; Ruby Fresh Salad Jewels, Ruby Fresh; Lil Snappers, Sunkist Growers, Inc.

Best New Packaging: Eco-Crate, C.H. Robinson; Cabo Fresh 100 cal Snack Pack, Cabo Fresh; Salad Kitz, Crunch Pak; Folding RPC, InterCrate; Artisan Series Basket Weave Clamshells with Dometops, JemD Farms – Red Sun & Golden Sun Greenhouse Vegetables; Sunset Display Ready Box, Mastronardi Produce; Snack Fresh, NNZ Inc.; Peel and Reseal Spring Mix Trays, Ready Pac Foods

Best New Packing/Processing Equipment: Mango Destoning Equipment, ABL; ECM-200 Precision Slicing Machine, Nichimo; RayFly Optical Sorter, Raytec Vision SPA; Robag FXIS 3ci rotary polyethylene packaging system, TNA North America

Best New Vegetable Product: Pumpkin Pie Baking Kit, AMF Farms/Bay Baby Produce; Tasti-Lee Tomatoes, Bejo Seeds Inc.; Italian Greens, Church Brothers; Grower Pete's Organic Living Butter Lettuce and Watercress, Hollandia Produce; Bite-A-Minis, Nature Fresh Farms; Dippin Stix – Celery, Reichel Foods

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