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KENTUCKY PEPSI VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES N.G.A. SPIRIT OF AMERICA AWARD

ARLINGTON, Virginia (August 9, 2002) –On July 27, 2002, Mike Brown, Vice President and General Manager of the PepsiAmericas Kentuckiana Division, received the N.G.A. Spirit of America Award at the Kentucky Grocers Association's annual convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

The award was presented by N.G.A. Senior Vice President and Senior Counsel, Tom Wenning, to Brown in praise of his support of the Kentucky Grocers Association, in recognition of his active and effective participation in government affairs to preserve and foster the principals of free enterprise, and as a strong and effective leader for community recycling programs across Kentucky.

Brown has been in the business for over 25 years. After working as a courier for the Journal & Louisville Times, he joined the team at PepsiAmericas in 1976 where he rose to Vice President and General Manager of the Kentuckiana Division.

In addition to his professional success with Pepsi, Brown is president of the Kentucky Beverage Industry Recycling Program, has served as director of the Kentucky Soft Drink Association and the Indiana Soft Drink Association, and remains active in development and leadership at the University of Louisville, his alma mater. In 1995, Brown received the Don Kendall Pepsi-Cola Bottler of the year award for the Louisville, Kentucky franchise.

The N.G.A. Spirit of America Award, established in 1982, honors key industry and community figures who have provided leadership in the areas of community services and government relations on behalf of a free and independent food distribution system. Recipients of the award have included former Presidents Gerald Ford and George Bush; former Vice President Dan Quayle; former Speaker of the House, Tom Foley; Clinton Administration Chief of Staff, Leon Panetta; as well as other distinguished individuals serving the public interest.

N.G.A. is the national trade association representing the retail and wholesale grocers that comprise the independent sector of the food distribution industry. An independent retailer is a privately owned or controlled food retail company operating in a variety of formats. Some are publicly traded but with controlling shares held by the family. Most independent operators are serviced by wholesale distributors, while others may be partially or fully self-distributing. Independents are the true “entrepreneurs” of the grocery industry and dedicated to their customers, associates, and communities. N.G.A. members include retail and wholesale grocers and their state associations, as well as manufacturers and service suppliers.