

For Immediate Release

Contact: Janet M. Conti
(502) 777-7574

john conti Coffee® Co. acquires **Slush Puppie®** Distributor

john conti Coffee® Co. has acquired Kentuckiana Frozen Beverages, the area distributor for **Slush Puppie®** beverages. The Company is the exclusive distributor for 28 counties in Kentucky and Indiana. The purchase includes distribution rights for Lanikai, Fruit Frazee and Thelma's Lemonade frozen beverages for 22 counties throughout Western Kentucky. The Company is also a distributor of nachos, popcorn and other supplies for theaters, convenience stores, country clubs and hospitals. Conti has taken over this distribution.

According to John Conti, President of john conti Coffee® Co., "This is a natural fit for our Company because it rounds out our product line, which benefits our customers. We've had requests from our customers to supply frozen beverages, but had difficulty developing a suitable program. With **Slush Puppie®**, we have the top quality program to satisfy their needs. This allows us to deliver our gourmet coffee, contea Iced Tea, aquaconti bottled Spring Water, and now **Slush Puppie®** to our customers from a single source."

Five employees for Kentuckiana Frozen Beverages, including company president Robert Grossman, have joined the john conti team.

According to Grossman, "We've been expanding our business for several years, but with the intense competition and the high cost of equipment, we couldn't grow as fast as we wanted. We first approached john conti Coffee® Co. to develop a partnership where we would supply **Slush Puppie®**, and they would supply gourmet coffee. After meeting with Conti, I realized the tremendous benefits for me and my people to merge and become part of john conti® Coffee Co."

john conti Coffee® Co. currently serves over 5,000 office, restaurant and institutional customers through its extensive route network throughout Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Tennessee and West Virginia. The company is the leading importer and roaster of high quality gourmet coffees for offices, restaurants, supermarkets and specialty stores.

May 27, 2004