



The World's Largest Submarine Sandwich Chain

NEWS

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SUBWAY® RESTAURANTS HONORS OUTSTANDING VENDOR

(Milford, Conn.) October 2003— Subway Restaurants, the world's largest submarine sandwich chain, is proud to announce that it has named Astra Foods Inc., of Upper Darby, PA, as the recipient of its Global Vendor of the Year award, during the company's convention in San Antonio, Texas.

Selected from a large group of vendors that supply the Subway chain from around the world, Astra Foods is honored for its outstanding support, exemplary service and dedicated commitment to the Subway brand throughout the year. The chain's recognition of Astra is especially meaningful due of the manufacturer's willingness to come to the aid of Subway suppliers in other parts of the world.

"We are honored to be a partner of the Subway organization. Receiving this prestigious award, recognizing the efforts put forth by each and every one of our employees, compliments that honor so much more," says Astra Foods President, Demosthenes (Demos) Vasiliou.

Spiros Poulimenos, Vice President of Astra Foods, adds, "Thanks goes out to every one at Subway for their continual support and guidance."

Suzanne Greco, Director of Research and Development for the Subway chain, says, "Astra Foods is a strategic business partner that continuously raises the bar to make the business relationship work for all of the stakeholders in the Subway community."

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According to the chain's research and development team, Astra Foods, a supplier of Steak products to Subway restaurants since 2001, has been credited for leading in quality initiatives while still keeping their pricing strategy competitive and has helped to further the Subway brand's global strategic plan by serving as a mentor to international suppliers.

"They have a very clear understanding of the Subway customer's expectations when it comes to their product category. By assisting a protein manufacturer in Europe, Astra was responsible for saving six months to a year of development time," adds Greco.

Subway Restaurants is the world's largest submarine sandwich franchise, with nearly 20,000 locations in 74 countries. In 2002, the Subway chain surpassed McDonald's in the number of restaurants open in the United States and Canada. Headquartered in Milford, Conn., Subway Restaurants was co-founded by Fred DeLuca and Dr. Peter Buck in 1965. That partnership marked the beginning of a remarkable journey—one that made it possible for thousands of individuals to build and succeed in their own business. Subway Restaurants was named the number one franchise opportunity in all categories by *Entrepreneur* magazine in its Annual Franchise 500 ranking for 2003—for the 11th time in 15 years!

For more information about the Subway restaurant chain, visit www.subway.com.

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