

Jim Kelly Honored at Midwest Wholesale Distributors Conference

The recent Midwest Wholesale Distributors Conference included honoring Jim Kelly, Xcaliber International regional manager, as the recipient of the 2026 Garry Adams Memorial Award. The award is presented annually from nominations submitted by distributors and manufacturers in the industry.

Jim's distinguished career includes sales and strategy leadership with Philip Morris, John Middleton, Tantus Tobacco, and Xcaliber International.



"Jim has been a respected leader and advocate within the industry, consistently contributing to its growth and supporting those around him," was highlighted in the nomination, and followed with "During my years in management, I have found it beneficial to surround yourself with experienced professionals, someone who could replace you if needed. Working with Jim is a perfect example of this belief because he has taught me much more than I have ever taught him."

The Midwest Wholesale Distributors Conference is the joint annual conference of the Ohio Wholesale Marketers Association, Indiana Wholesale Distributors Association and Kentucky Wholesale Distributors Association. Garry Adams was actively engaged in the associations of all three states and was part of the team that took the conference from a vision to reality.