



PRESS RELEASE

Stephen Altman Inducted into Convenience Distribution Association Hall of Fame



FEBRUARY 9, 2022 - TAMPA, FL - Stephen Altman, president of Mountain/Service Distributors in South Fallsburg, NY, was inducted into the Convenience Distribution Association's Hall of Fame Feb. 8 at the Convenience Distribution Marketplace in Tampa.

CDA's Hall of Fame award is presented to the industry's most valued participants—those whose careers are highlighted by continual accomplishments on the industry's behalf, and who have demonstrated unquestionable dedication to CDA's highest values.

Altman has been a part of Mountain/Service Distributors for as long as he can remember, beginning when he was a child stocking shelves or filling in wherever needed. In 1962, he officially joined the family business, then known as Mountain Candy & Cigar Company, beginning a life-long mission to succeed.

In the 1980's, the company changed its name to Mountain/Service Distributors. Under Altman's leadership, the family business continued to grow, eventually moving into an 80,000-square-foot facility, expanding its product line and managing foodservice programs for its customers.

As his business grew, he always prioritized the industry as a whole. He was the only person to concurrently sit on the National Association of Tobacco Distributors (NATD) and the National Candy Wholesalers Association (NCWA), the two trade associations that would merge to create the American Wholesale Marketers Association (AWMA), now known as CDA. He also served on the association's Board for 15 years and was a driving force in keeping the association moving forward.

"Over the years, he was involved in founding Peer Marketing and Quality Distribution Network," said Barry Margolis, Cooper-Booth Wholesale, Mountville, PA. "Steve also helped finance a chain of tobacco stores. He rapidly grew the private label cigarette business when the category was in its infancy. His vision has helped Mountain/Service continue to thrive as our industry rapidly changes. Steve has passed his entrepreneurial skills."

"There are few people I have met who are as passionate about our industry as Steve," said Keith Canning, CEO & founder of Sawyer Island Consulting, Portland, ME. "He has never been afraid to share his ideas and speak his mind on issues that are near and dear to the distributors' hearts, minds and financial wellbeing. He forged significant bonds over his career with manufacturers, suppliers, wholesalers and, most significantly, his customers. Steve has always been active in the association, championing and leading many of the causes."

"With his long and impressive career, dedication to bettering the industry and contributions to CDA over the years, Steve Altman has demonstrated all the qualities of a Hall of Famer and then some," said Kimberly Bolin, CDA president & CEO. "His collaborations with other industry veterans and involvement in many organizations show his impressive dedication to the distribution channel."

"I found a job I love, so I've never worked a day in my life, according to the common saying," said Altman. "I love the industry and the business. This year, I made 18 round trips to the company from

my Florida home, but retirement is not in the cards for me. I wouldn't know what to do with myself. Business traumas with checks bouncing, trucks breaking down and the stress that eats you alive are what I thrive on."

About CDA:

The Convenience Distribution Association (CDA) is the trade organization working on behalf of convenience product distributors in the United States. Its distributor members represent more than \$102 billion in U.S. convenience product sales, serving a wide variety of small retail formats. Associate members include leading convenience product manufacturers, brokers, retailers, suppliers, and others allied to the industry. For more information visit: www.cdaweb.net .

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