

REFRIGERATION

SEPTEMBER 2024

magazine

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again**

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**TUBULAR
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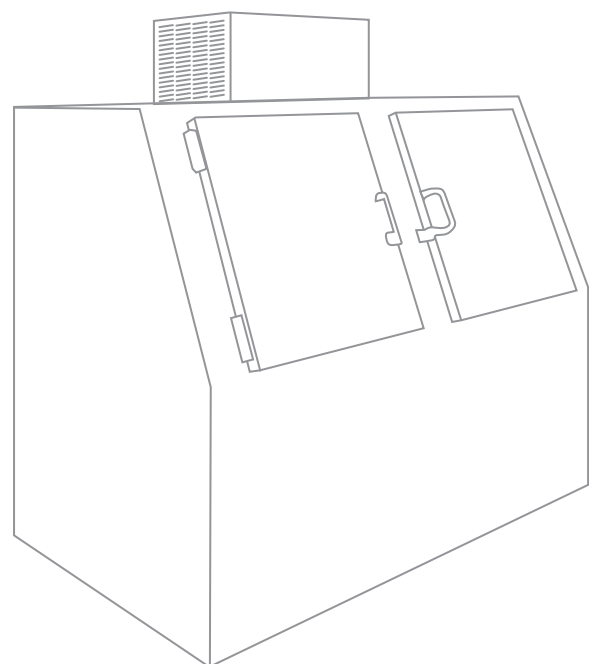
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CONVENTIONS

Save the Date for the IPIA Convention



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Hurricanes Show No Mercy Now

When I watched Hurricane Helene make a wrong turn and head for the hills, the first thing I thought of was, "Well, at least that area of the country hasn't run out of ice." I was thinking that way because I'd been watching repeated storm hits to the Florida coasts. With so much ice and water being distributed to those former hard hit areas, I forgot to remember how storms devastate towns in an instant...no matter where... and yet we are in an industry which can instantly begin to solve the misery problem with your product.

As storms increase in strength and frequency, ice is becoming a commodity again. Once upon a time, the public depended on door to door ice service to cool their food and serve their domestic needs. Strangely, nature has returned a favor.

You can manufacture and distribute the saving grace to the growing regularity of disaster needs. Ice is at the top of the heap.

Seth Borenstein wrote, "More than 40 trillion gallons of rain drenched the Southeast United States in the last week from Hurricane Helene and a run-of-the-mill rainstorm that sloshed in ahead of it — an unheard of amount of water that has stunned experts.

That's enough to fill the Dallas Cowboys' stadium 51,000 times, or Lake Tahoe just once. If it was concentrated just on the state of North Carolina that much water would be 3.5 feet deep (more than 1 meter). It's enough to fill more than 60 million Olympic-size swimming pools.

Take care of yourselves and your communities. We're in for a run.

Mary Yopp Cronley
Editor, Refrigeration Magazine



"Once upon a time, the public depended on door to door ice service to cool their food and serve their domestic needs. Strangely, nature has returned a favor."



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Elegant Ice Creations is Northeast Ohio's leading ice sculpting company! Our team consists of World Champion ice carvers – three having competed and won at the World Ice Art Championships. We service Cleveland, Akron, Canton, Youngstown the Lake Erie Islands and beyond. Our crystal clear creations are sculpted by hand or using the highest CNC technology available. We are known globally for our ice creations having been involved in weddings for Princes, displays for Presidents and mostly our ability to transform almost any idea into an Elegant Ice Creation.

Our ice blocks start in our shop, we make them so they're

customizable from the time we start the freezing process – freeze in your favorite flowers, marketing objects or even a photo! Check out our ice sculpture gallery for inspiration or call the office directly to discuss your ideas. Looking for color – we just don't print out a piece of paper to freeze in – we do layers of color and have a no-limit approach to making your customized ice a reality. We also specialize in crystal clear ice cubes and spheres – plus we can logo ice cubes for any business or event – we do this as a snow filled design feature, no stamping of ice here!

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2024 CONVENTION AGENDA

**Additional Fees Apply

(Subject to change)



MON
Nov 11

10:00am - 2:00pm
12:00pm - 5:00pm
12:00pm - 9:00pm
3:00pm - 4:00pm
4:00pm - 5:00pm
6:30pm - 9:00pm

Executive Committee Meeting
Registration/Hospitality Desk
Supplier Optional Exhibit Setup (Suppliers Only)
Board of Directors Meeting
Board of Directors/Committee Meeting
Board of Directors/Committee Dinner or Dinner on Your Own

TUES
Nov 12

6:30am - 1:30pm
7:30am - 4:30pm
7:30am - 8:00pm
8:30am - 1:30pm
9:00am - 1:00pm
10:00am - 11:30am
1:45pm - 2:30pm
2:45pm - 4:45pm
5:00pm - 8:00pm

19th Annual Mel Eads Memorial Golf Tournament** (Tustin Ranch Golf Club)
Supplier Exhibit Setup (Suppliers Only)
Registration/Hospitality Desk
Training: PIQCS Refresher**
Training: Safety Program Fundamentals**
Downtown Walking Tour-Historic Huntington Beach (with tour guide)**
First Timers/Applicants Welcome & Meetup
Welcome Opening Session & Gold Sponsor Presentations & Panel
Exhibit Hall Grand Opening and Reception

WED
Nov 13

7:00am - 7:30am
8:00am - 5:00pm
8:00am - 9:30am
8:00am - 10:00am
8:30am - 9:45am
9:00am - 11:00am
9:30am - 10:00am
10:00am - 10:15am
10:15am - 12:30pm
12:45pm - 2:15pm
12:45pm - 3:15pm
3:15pm - 3:30pm
3:30pm - 5:00pm
7:00pm - 10:00pm

Roger Breisch Memorial Fun Run/Walk
Registration/Hospitality Desk
Breakfast in the Exhibit Hall
Exhibit Hall Open
Canadian Association of Ice Industries Breakfast Meeting
Ladies/Spouse Activity
Coffee Break inside Exhibit Hall
Coffee Break/Refreshments for Focus Sessions
Focus Sessions
Lunch in the Exhibit Hall
Exhibit Hall Open
Coffee Break/Refreshments for Annual Business Meeting
Annual Business Meeting and Award Presentations
Chairman's Party: California Dreamin' - Surf City USA

THURS
Nov 14

7:00am - 7:30am
8:00am - 12:00pm
8:00am - 9:30am
8:00am - 10:00am
8:30am - 9:45am
10:00am - 10:15am
10:00am - 5:00pm
10:00am - 12:00pm
12:15pm - 12:30pm
12:30pm - 4:00pm
5:30pm - 7:15pm

Roger Breisch Memorial Fun Run/Walk
Registration/Hospitality Desk
Breakfast in the Exhibit Hall
Exhibit Hall Open
Past Chairman's Breakfast
Coffee Break/Refreshments for Focus Sessions
Exhibit Hall Teardown
Focus Sessions
Load Buses for Ice Plant Tour
Ice Plant Tour and Lunch (Arctic Glacier - Carson, CA)
Final Cocktail Reception and Passing of the Gavel

FRIDAY, NOV 15 SAFE TRAVELS HOME!

TRAINING OFFERINGS

TUESDAY

November 12 | 8:30 am – 1:30 pm
PIQCS Refresher**
Led by Chris Dunn, DunnWorks, LLC

November 12 | 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Safety Program Fundamentals**
Led by Brandon Gentry, Reddy Ice

Visit packagedice.com/2024-convention for details and registration. **Additional fees apply. Lunch included.

	Optional Training (If Attending Full Convention)	Optional Training + 1-Day Convention Pass (Tuesday ONLY)	Optional Training ONLY
Regular (Ends 10/11/24)	\$175 (Member) \$225 (Non-Member)	\$300 (Member) \$400 (Non-Member)	\$225 (Member) \$300 (Non-Member)
Late (10/12/24 -Convention)	\$225 (Member) \$300 (Non-Member)	\$400 (Member) \$550 (Non-Member)	\$275 (Member) \$375 (Non-Member)



OPENING PANEL

TUESDAY

November 12 | 2:45 pm, during Welcome Opening Session

Featured Panel: **Uniting the Ice Industry Across the Globe through Innovation and Sustainability**

Join members of IPIA's International Committee and Operations Committee as they share their insights on current trends shaping the packaged ice industry globally, such as sustainability concerns, market trends, quality assurance standards, and technological advancements. Panelists will share their perspectives for the packaged ice industry during this informative session.



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FOCUS SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY

November 13 | 10:15 am – 11:00 am



Social Media: Don't Get Left Out in the Cold!

Tristan Simpson, Marketing & Communications, Arctic Glacier, Inc. Learn about the fundamentals of social media to help market and elevate your business to customers (B2B) and ice consumers (B2C). Get helpful tips and tricks and hear about the latest trends. If you aren't yet active, learn easy steps on how to get started using social media today.

November 13 | 11:00 am – 11:25 am



Exploring the Economics of Federal Tax Reform and its Impact on Businesses

Chris Lamond, Thorn Run Partners
 Chris will review the political realities and likelihood of tax reform next year as Congress looks to extend or alter the expiring Tax Cuts & Jobs Act of 2017 (Trump's tax policy). A focus on the implications for businesses such as corporate tax rates, individual rates and other expiring provisions will be reviewed, as well as challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

November 13 | 3:30 pm
 (during Annual Business Meeting)

Public Affairs Update

Chris Lamond, Thorn Run Partners
 Chris will share the successes of the Public Affairs committee and ongoing efforts.

November 13 | 11:35 am – 12:30 pm



Progress in Codes and Standards related to Natural Refrigerants Codes and Standards / Enforcement Awareness for General Duty Clause Requirements

Tony Lundell, Senior Director of Standards and Safety, IIAR

An overview of this session includes:

- 1) Understand the road map of natural refrigerants (NH3, CO2, HCs) for equipment safety, engineering, service, meeting model codes, and their specific applications to Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) Approvals.
- 2) Understand the general purpose, scope, and refrigerant equipment locations within occupancies of the IIAR Standards that can utilize natural refrigerants.
- 3) List the Model Code adoptions of IIAR Standards in 2023 & 2024 and become aware of the IIAR HC Standard that is presently in development.
- 4) Understand the Enforcement Awareness for (OSHA & EPA) General Duty Clause (GDC) Requirements to "Identify Hazards Using Appropriate Hazard Assessment Techniques."

THURSDAY

November 14 | 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Most-Cited OSHA Violations and How They Relate to the Ice Industry



Brandon Gentry, CSP, SMS, Manager of Field Safety, Reddy Ice
 Brandon will discuss the most cited OSHA violations and a wide range of safety information, including most-cited OSHA Violations:

- Fall Protection
- Lockout Tagout
- Machine Guarding
- Hearing Protection
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Hazard Communication
- Ladders / Scaffolding
- Powered Industrial Trucks
- Respiratory Protection

November 14 | 11:00 am – 12:00 pm



PIQCS Manual and Audits Update

Chris Dunn, DunnWorks, LLC
 Chris will review the latest updates on the PIQCS manual as we continue to implement the Food Safety Modernization Act. He will also review the most recent commonly cited non-conformances on PIQCS audits.

For more information, visit packagedice.com

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

TUESDAY

November 12 | 6:30 am – 1:30 pm
(Meet in the lobby at 6:30am. Shotgun start at 8:00 am.
Arrive back to hotel by 1:30pm-1:45pm.)

19th Annual Mel Eads Memorial Golf Tournament**

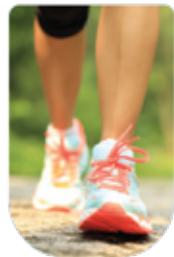
Cost: \$239 per person



Our IPIA Annual Golf Tournament will be held at Tustin Ranch Golf Club located in Tustin, California and is a short 30-40 minute drive from the hotel. It features a signature Ted Robinson designed golf course that has been ranked by *Golf Digest Magazine* as 4-stars for years.

TUESDAY

November 12 | 10:00 am – 11:30 am
Optional Activity: Downtown Walking Tour of Historic Huntington Beach (with tour guide)
Cost: \$25.00



Experience the charm of Historic Huntington Beach with a local tour guide! Discover more than a century of beach town nostalgia on your stroll through "Surf City". The tour will wrap up with a local libation and recommendations for lunch options nearby.

WEDNESDAY

November 13 | 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Ladies/Spouse Activity
Cost: Included in spouse/guest package— advance RSVP is required.



All ladies/spouses are invited to join Jennifer Ward, the Chairman's wife, for a light continental breakfast, coffee, and conversation followed by an optional beach walk.



THURSDAY

November 14 | 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm
(Load buses at 12:15 pm)
Ice Plant Tour & Lunch

Cost: No cost – included in convention registration. Advance RSVP is required.

Please join us for a tour and lunch at the Arctic Glacier ice plant, located at 17011 S Central Ave., Carson, CA 90746.

Type of Ice Makers: (3) Turbo 150 tons, (4) Turbo 100 tons
Rated Tonnage: 850
Vault Capacity: 4600 pallets
Age of Facility: 1997
Water Treatment: Carbon, softeners, RO, and UV light
Bin: (3) 300-ton Turbo
Bagging Lines: 7 lines + 1 block press
Robot: (2) Evolution Palletizers

CHAIRMAN'S PARTY
CALIFORNIA DREAMIN—SURF CITY, USA

NOVEMBER 13, 7:00-10:00 PM

Cost: Included in full or spouse/guest registration.

Join us for the ultimate beachside bash, channeling the spirit of California - where surfboards stand tall and retro vibes are in full swing! We're talking fire pits blazing nearby, and the salty breeze mixing with tunes that scream West Coast cool. As you arrive to our outdoor courtyard facing beautiful Huntington Beach, you will be greeted by the sound of crashing waves, setting the tone for a night of pure fun. And you bet dinner is on the menu, where we'll be serving up those classic Cali flavors to keep the good times rolling! Against the backdrop of twinkling stars and the rhythmic lull of the ocean, the party unfolds with a carefree vibe that captures the essence of lazy beach days and endless summer nights. It's sure to be a night where memories are made, fueled by good company and the timeless magic of the California coast!



SCAN TO REGISTER!



Use your mobile device and scan the above QR code to be taken to the convention registration page on packagedice.com!

NEED ASSISTANCE?

If you need assistance with your registration or need a hard copy of the registration form, please contact our team at ipia@suncoastmeetings.com or (813) 852-1977.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Refunds for registration fees will be granted if they are received 30 days prior to the start of the Convention (Friday, October 11, 2024). There is no charge for substitutions/name changes. A \$75 processing fee will apply to all refunds requested more than 30 days prior to arrival date.

Cancellations prior to 7 days (but within a month) will be subject to a \$150 processing fee. There will not be any refunds within 7 days prior to the convention although substitutions/name changes from the same company will be at no charge. Refunds for optional training, golf and optional tours require notice by Tuesday, October 29, 2024.

IPIA 2024 CONVENTION REGISTRATION DETAILS

	Early Bird: 7/8-9/8/24	Regular: 9/9-10/9/24	Late: 10/10-Convention
Full Registration	\$750 (Member) \$1030 (Non-Member)	\$825 (Member) \$1105 (Non-Member)	\$925 (Member) \$1205 (Non-Member)
Exhibit Hall Pass	\$525 (Member) \$715 (Non-Member)	\$600 (Member) \$790 (Non-Member)	\$700 (Member) \$890 (Non-Member)
Spouse/Guest Package <small>(must be accompanied by a full registration)</small>	\$595 (Member) \$695 (Non-Member)	\$670 (Member) \$770 (Non-Member)	\$770 (Member) \$870 (Non-Member)

FULL REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

- Access to all Convention & Trade Show events, except for optional tours and activities
- All events in the Exhibit Hall, including (2) Breakfasts, (1) Lunch, and Welcome Reception
- Ice Plant Tour/Lunch
- Chairman's Party and Final Cocktail Reception
- Access to all education sessions
- Ladies/Spouse Continental Breakfast

EXHIBIT HALL PASS INCLUDES:

- All events in the Exhibit Hall, including (2) Breakfasts, (1) Lunch, and Welcome Reception
 - Ice Plant Tour/Lunch
- Note:** Suppliers must first have (1) full registration from company.

SPOUSE/GUEST PACKAGE:

- (only available when accompanied by a full registration from same company)
- All events in the Exhibit Hall, including (2) Breakfasts, (1) Lunch, and Welcome Reception
 - Ice Plant Tour/Lunch
 - Chairman's Party and Final Cocktail Reception
 - Ladies/Spouse Continental Breakfast

Suppliers must be an IPIA member and have an Exhibit booth to attend. The registration fees above are in addition to the Exhibit Hall booth fee.

REGISTRATION POLICIES

Attendee Badges: All paid registration categories (i.e. full registration vs. Exhibit Hall pass) will be identified by the attendee's badge holder color. Badges are monitored at all events. Badges cannot be shared between multiple attendees. Badges are non-transferable except for substitutions/name changes from the same company.

Registration Packages: Attendees are allowed into the events for which they have paid for, as outlined under the "Registration Options" section.

- For the online registration link, please visit the packagedice.com website under Events & News/2024 Convention.
- Individual event tickets are not sold in advance.
- Golf tournament and optional tour refunds require notice by Tuesday, October 29, 2024. Name changes only are permitted after this date, but no refunds.

Payment: You have the option to pay by check or credit card. Please be aware there is a 4% processing fee added to your invoice to pay by credit card. If you do not want to pay this fee, please be sure to send in check payment within (30) days of submitting your registration and no later than September 30, 2024.

Checks: All checks should be made payable to IPIA and mailed to the IPIA office at 1519 Dale Mabry Highway, Suite 202, Lutz, FL 33548.

Visit packagedice.com/2024-convention to register.

TUBULAR

Dude

CHAPTER
14

It was just before dawn. The July heat along with the influx of media and sightseers increased the demand for ice. Somehow, and he wasn't sure how, Benny would talk to Charlie, the owner of Always Nice Ice Company, and ask for the afternoon off.

He walked into the ice plant feeling as if he hadn't slept in a week. He brushed past two of the night baggers on the way in.

Funny fellows, those guys. They never say a word and always smell like pot. They just grunt. Shady looking dudes if I ever saw one.

The night baggers came in once or twice a week. Benny never saw them come into work, and rarely saw them leaving. The rest of the crew called them ghosts. The two had been with the company for years, even before Benny started. Nobody knew much about them other than they were knew Charlie. The only evidence they worked there at all would be the occasional sighting of them as they left work, and the rotation of pallets of bagged ice in the freezer.

Robert Randell threw the phone down. He stared angrily at his two hired investigators. "I can't interview the janitor in the hospital, you guys don't know anything, and now," he gestured angrily at the phone, "and now, that cop has taken the day off and refused to be interviewed by me." Robert arched an eyebrow and gave Captain Gaines an angry look.

"Can't you do anything?"

The captain fidgeted in his chair.

Can I ever get a break? First the wife and now you.

The morning so far had not been easy for the captain of the Spencer Police Department. Sarah Gaines would not let up on him. Her dream of high society acceptance and political gain for her husband was wearing on him something awful.

"Look, Mr. Robert Randell, of the CNN, bore you to tears network. I cannot, and will not ask Officer Smotes to come in today. Yesterday was a crazy day and my man was knee deep in it. He needs some time to collect his thoughts. He probably, like the rest of us, did not have a good night's sleep. You guys have reporters camped out in his yard, not to mention turning my town upside down. Let's all just take a deep breath and see what unfolds."

The CNN anchor looked angrily at the investigators. "You guys better come up with something fast or else." He stomped out of the captain's office.

Officer Smotes laughed as never before. He just lost his last follower. The ABC news van blew a tire following Henry into a hay field.

Henry and his wife had giggled like kids earlier as they had discussed how he would evade the army of reporters in his front yard. He had been able to sneak into his backyard undetected last night after leaving grandpa's barn. He knew then that the daylight hours would make it hard to leave his house without the reporters following. The plan was simple enough. Cindy Smotes ran into the front yard yelling and pointing at her neighbor's house. "The Iceman! I just saw him in their field." Instantly the reporters along with their photographers and video crews started running towards the field.

With a quick kiss for his wife and another giggle, Henry jumped on the "borrowed" dirt bike and raced out of the garage.

Bob Jacobs and Sharon Petrie pulled into the driveway. Clarence waved them into the barn. Benny's truck, along with the investigators car and a dirt bike were also in the barn. They put on the offered parka jackets and walked down stairs into the chilly apartment.

Henry Smotes filled them in on his escape from the reporters and then listened as the investigators smiled brightly as they related the probable loss of their jobs.

Clarence thought Bob and Sharon looked troubled. He considered asking them what was wrong. Bob saw the confusion on grandpa's face. He slowly stood and walked to T.D.

"I believe we've come up with something, T.D." The room quieted as Bob asked Tubular Dude to sit down.

"Last night I couldn't sleep, and it wasn't because of meeting you, T.D. It was something else." Bob viewed the anticipation on the faces in the room. He took a deep breath and continued. "The very night you first appeared, just down the street where you rescued the pregnant woman and her husband, an ice merchandiser blew up at Ace Convenience Store."

"Hey, I remember that," Benny said excitedly. "I had to take out another box. Some kids blew that merchandiser to pieces."

"Maybe," Bob continued. "I don't think so. I went back several years into the newspaper archives. It was something you said, T.D., about how you knew to find the ice plant that very first night. And how you knew about John Elway and the Broncos. But mostly, you said that Benny seemed familiar to you the first day you spent in the freezer at the ice plant. Remember? You said you saw him in the freezer picking up a

candy wrapper."

Sharon held Bob's hand tightly. She knew what was coming.

"A few years back," Bob continued, "a man named Jackson Williams worked at the ice plant for a few weeks and then disappeared. His girlfriend went missing the same day. Jackson's sister has not heard from him since. At first, she thought he took off to travel the country."

T.D.'s hands went to his face. His frozen eyes widened.

Julie! Cindy!

T.D. stood. He looked at Bob and Sharon. "Go on," he said, more forcibly then intended.

"I went back a few more years." Bob released himself from Sharon's hand and walked over to Tubular Dude and placed a hand on his shoulder. He turned to Benny. "How well do you know Charlie?"

"He's the owner. He took the plant over from his father, and, uh, well, he seems ok. I guess I don't

know much." Benny shrugged his shoulders and added, "He pays me every week, and that was always good enough."

"How about those two, old duds, the night guys the bag ice?" Bob held out his hand. Sharon handed him the note pad. "Barry Shant and Jim Benton."

"You know more than I do," Benny laughed nervously. "I only knew them as Jim and Barry. They never speak to anyone. They were in Army with Charlie. They served together in Vietnam."

Tubular Dude listened to the conversation while his own mind went in several directions.

Julie, Cindy, Charlie . . . Jackson Williams!

Eyes composed of ice squinted in concentration. Pounding pain surged through his head. Flashes of memory raced like a wildfire through his thoughts.

A blond woman, small and petite.

"Jackson!" Men with guns. Two guns, no; three men with guns. Julie!

"T.D. Hey, T.D."

Tubular Dude heard his name and slowly opened his eyes. He lay on the floor. Benny knelt beside him along with Sharon and grandpa.

"You passed out buddy. Are you ok?"

Tubular Dude focused his eyes and saw everyone else staring down at him with concern.

"Yeah, I'm ok."

Several arms grabbed hold and helped him to the couch. After a moment of silence, T.D. spoke. "Did I hear you mention drugs?"

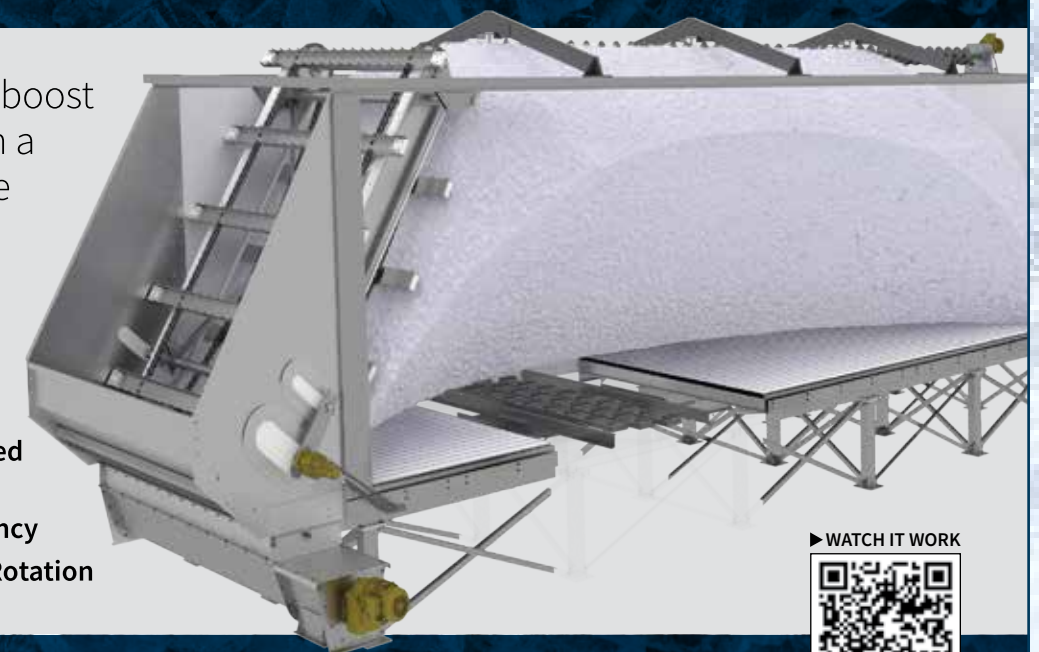
Bob patted T.D. on the arm and repeated what he had said. "I said that Charlie was never in Vietnam. But he did serve two years in jail for heroin trafficking when he was young. And guess what?" Bob nodded in Benny's direction. "Your co-workers, Jim and Barry were in Vietnam; both dishonorably discharged on drug charges. Each

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of them has a long criminal record, mostly drugs. But the funny thing is, neither has had an arrest since they started working at the ice plant."

"Can you tell us anything about them, Benny?"

"Pretty much what I told you? They were there when I started. They come in once or twice a week, at night, and do some bagging and rotating of the pallets in the freezer. I just know they are buddies with Charlie."

Officer Smotes looked at the two investigators. They nodded their heads in a non-verbal agreement. "We're on our way," the short one said. The room watched as they smiled at T.D. and then walked up the stairs.

"Where are they going? Grandpa asked.

"They're going to check out our two-night baggers," Henry said.

Pallets of ice. Bags of white powder. Screaming. Bronco tickets. A blond girl, small and pretty. Blood . . . Three men with guns . . .

"T.D. Ya ok?"

The man of ice paced the room. His head hurt. Flashes, small scenes, fragmented segments of a lost life surged through his mind.

A young girl, twenty years old, blond hair and blue eyes. Mile High Stadium. Another girl, blondish red hair. Men with guns . . .

"T.D.!"

Benny stood beside Tubular Dude. The frozen face was contorted, as much as it could be, in confusion. The fleeting images, brutally intense, flashed before him in rapid frames.

Cindy. Julie. Forgot the tickets at work. No Charlie. No!

He turned to his friends. Sharon had tears in her eyes. Grandpa smiled cautiously. He knew his frozen friend was deeply troubled. Bob Jacobs patted Officer Smotes on the shoulder and continued.

"There's something else. Those

two night baggers are not employed anywhere else. At least not by their social security numbers."

"We drove by their houses on the way here," Sharon added. "Very nice homes," she continued with a raised eyebrow. "Too nice!"

Tubular Dude sat heavily on the couch.

"Does any of this help your memory, T.D.?" Bob asked.

"My head is swimming with all these thoughts and pictures. My head is ready to explode. I don't know what to think."

Sharon walked over to Benny and whispered in his ear. This did not go un-noticed by the man of ice. He watched as Benny's eyes went wide. Slowly, Sharon reached into her purse and pulled out three photographs and handed them to him.

"What?" What do you have there, Benny?"

"My friend, I have a picture of Jackson Williams and a picture of his girlfriend, Julie Borders, and . . ." Benny paused as Tubular Dude jumped to his feet and rushed over to him.

Tubular Dude towered over Benny. He stood inches away from his friend. The frozen body trembled as T.D. slowly opened his hand. "Who is the third picture of?"

"It's a picture of Cindy Williams." Benny placed the pictures in the large hand.

T.D. looked at the pictures for only a second. The large body constructed completely of small tubular ice cubes shook uncontrollably. His breathing labored as he fought for control of his thoughts. The room filled with bursts of snow spurting forth on each of his heavy exhales.

Oh my God. I am Jackson Williams!

Frozen eyes rolled back into the large head. It took all of Benny and Bob's strength to keep T.D. from hitting the floor. Tubular Dude had

passed out for the second time.

Flashes of light; colors, vibrant and glowing. Soft music. Blond hair, long and flowing. Tickets to the game. Broncos.

Am I dreaming? I can't be.

"Forgot the tickets at work, Julie. Wanna go with me to pick them up?" "Sure, Jackson."

Pretty and blond. I'm going to ask her to be my wife tonight. Already told my sister I would pop the question tonight after the game. Cindy is so excited .

"Just let him be," grandpa said. He along with Henry, Benny, and Bob had laid T.D. on the couch.

"He's smiling," Sharon said as she stood over him.

"It was just so overwhelming for him to take in all at once." Officer Henry Smotes mind raced for answers as he viewed his frozen friend passed out on the couch.

"If he is really Jackson Williams, how did he become Tubular Dude?" Benny asked.

"Oh, oh." Grandpa watched along with the others as T.D.'s face took on a frown and then a look of horror.

More images, this time dark and fleeting, occupied Tubular Dude's dreams.

Hand in hand with Julie. Walking into the ice plant. Charlie and the two night baggers. Oh no! Bags of white powder loading into a large suit case. Hiding them in the pallets of ice in the freezer. Charlie's a drug dealer. Jim and Barry, smiling, each with a gun pointing at me. "Sorry Jackson. You've seen what you should not have seen." Charlie aiming a gun at Julie's head. "Run, Julie, Run!" Jackson lunged at Charlie. A gunshot, and then another. A sharp pain. Laughter in the background. Another shot. A woman's scream.

"Noooooo!" **RM**

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