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Pepsi honors top bottlers

Anonymous

Bottler of the year honored

In other Pepsi news, the company last month recognized Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. of Yuma, Ariz., with its Donald M. Kendall Bottler of the Year Award for the company's 2005 results. Named for PepsiCo's former chairman and founder, the award is considered the highest honor bestowed upon PCNA's bottling partners, and took place during its national bottler meeting in San Diego.

Bottler of the year finalists are selected on key criteria, including customer service, community support, volume and sales growth, quality standards and performance against the company's strategic imperatives.

Pepsi-Cola Yuma achieved double-digit bottle-and-can growth over the past year, and its three-year compound annual growth of 9 percent puts it at the top of the bottling system. At the community level, the company has a relationship with Hospice of Yuma, an organization providing care and services to patients in the final stages of terminal illness.

Other finalists for the award included Fitzgerald Bros. Beverages of Glens Falls, N.Y.; **Buffalo Rock Co.**, Mobile, Ala.; and The Pepsi Bottling Group's North Florida/South Georgia Market Unit.