

Press Information

Page 1 of 2

RE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE/NEWS, UNUSUAL EVENTS

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EATON, OH— Henny Penny Corporation, the Ohio Department of Agriculture staff, and five Ohio potato chip companies were recognized by Guinness World Records™ for constructing the world's largest bag of potato chips at the Ohio State Fair in August 2003.

The world record attempt was undertaken in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the potato chip. The official weight of 1,082.5 pounds was recorded by the department's Weights & Measures officials and declared safe for consumption by the department's food safety officials. The department sent documentation of the event and the record attempt to the Guinness World Records™ office in London, England for verification.

Ingredients included:

- 4,250 pounds (more than two tons) of Ohio 'Superior'-variety potatoes. This is the most common variety of potatoes grown in Ohio.
- More than 700 pounds hydrogenated soybean oil made mostly from Ohio soybeans
- 80 pounds of salt

The 8ft.x5ft.x5ft. bag contained 16,000 1-oz (around 18 chips) servings with 160 calories, 10 grams of fat, 135 milligrams of sodium, and 15 grams of carbohydrates per serving.

Press Information

Page 2 of 2

Henny Penny Global Foodservice Solutions, a manufacturer of commercial foodservice equipment in Eaton, Ohio, supplied six high-volume deep fryers for the job. Two corporate chefs and a handful of marketing officials and technical support personnel from Henny Penny were on hand to monitor the frying operation.

“We did some testing before to make sure it could even be done,” Henny Penny Chef Tom Douglas said. “You don’t want to go out and try something like that if you’re not sure.” The company’s popular fryers were certainly up to the task. They are designed and made for many of the world’s busiest restaurants. “We just had to make sure we had the right number and type of fryers for the job,” Douglas said.

The five participating companies were Ballreich’s Potato Chips & Snacks (Tiffin), Conn’s (Zanesville), Jones Potato Chip Company (Mansfield), Mike-Sell’s Potato Chip Company (Dayton), and Shearer’s Foods, Inc. (Brewster). These companies had never used Henny Penny fryers before setting the record that day. The task for setting the record was made possible by the Henny Penny fryers’ ability to have the operator just push one button for the fryer to automatically lower the potatoes, cook them for a programmed time at a programmed temperature, and raise the chips out of the oil when finished. The potato chip cooks, then, just had to empty the baskets and start over.

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