



PRESS RELEASE

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NCSA (216) 631 8200
info@candyhalloffame.org

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NCSA HONORS ANASTASI WITH DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

TAMPA, FL — John Anastasi, of ESM Metro New York, was the recipient of the National Confectionery Sales Association's 2014 Distinguished Service Medal during the Candy Hall of Fame weekend.

The medal is given to an Association member who has committed years of service and dedication on behalf of the NCSA.

Anastasi, who will retire later this year from his position as senior vice-president at ESM, served as president of the Association from 1995 to 1997, was a member of its Board of Directors and was its chairman for a two-year term. In addition, he was president of the New York Candy Club and president of the Metropolitan Food Brokers Association.

"This man has never let the NCSA down, continuing to support the Association year after year," says John Leipold, first vice-president of the organization. "His good humor and willingness is evident in all he does, and that has also carried him through 50 years in the industry."

A 2000 Candy Hall of Fame inductee, Anastasi began his career with Paul Sayres Co., where he became its youngest vice-president at the age of 28. He also was a partner and held executive positions with D.C. Sales Co. and M.W. Houck, Inc.

Away from the industry, he has been active as a volunteer firefighter, holding the positions of District Fire Commissioner and a two-year term as Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners for the Chelsea, NJ Fire District. Anastasi was made an Honorary Active Life Member of the Chelsea Fire Company, only the second such honor bestowed in the group's 40-year history.

"I was very surprised and honored that the Association felt the years of service I had in the industry warranted an award," Anastasi says. "There are others who were more deserving, so I am certainly grateful it."

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Photos of the award presentation are available upon request by contact info@candyhalloffame.org.

The National Confectionery Sales Association, formed in 1899, is dedicated to furthering positive growth and acceptance of confectionery products, and recognizing the achievements of category leaders from all sectors of the international industry. The Candy Hall of Fame was founded in 1971, and recognizes lifetime career achievements in the confectionery industry, with induction based on dedication to the overall betterment of the industry.