

**HOLIDAY NOTICE**  
THERMO-KOOL's offices and factory will be closed Friday, April 18th, for the Good Friday Holiday.



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**EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH**



**JESSIE JOHNSON**  
QC INSPECTOR I  
QUALITY CONTROL DEPARTMENT

**Thermo-Kool** QC Inspector I, Quality Control Department – **Jessie Johnson** was selected Employee of the Month for January 2025. Jessie was nominated by **Thermo-Kool** Quality Control Supervisor, **Rodney Miller**, who commented, "Despite recent staffing shortages in the QC department, Jessie has consistently gone above and beyond to maintain smooth operations. Even while on vacation, he answered the call to return when his team needed him, selflessly canceling his plans to provide support. Jessie's dedication to quality shines through in every task, and he continually exceeds expectations. Beyond his exceptional work ethic, Jessie's positive attitude and warm smile brighten the workplace as he moves throughout the plant." Jessie has been with **Thermo-Kool** since May 1995.



**BRIAN LANDSTRA**  
TEAM LEADER  
MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

**Thermo-Kool** Team Leader, Maintenance Department – **Brian Landstra** was selected Employee of the Month for February 2025. Brian was nominated by **Thermo-Kool** Maintenance Supervisor, **Josh Warren**, who commented, "Brian is proactive in his work, always arriving early to prepare equipment and prevent any delays in daily production. His positive attitude and adaptability allow him to tackle ever-changing job demands with ease. Brian's extensive knowledge of the equipment makes him an invaluable asset, as he can effectively troubleshoot and resolve issues as they arise. He is a pleasure to work with, even during stressful periods, and always maintains a courteous and professional demeanor." Brian has been with **Thermo-Kool** since December 2021.

**ONE WORD**

Every year, our team selects a word to live and work by. This word is displayed in everyone's respective office as a reminder of our commitment and dedication to make the new year as successful as possible.



**Rand McLaughlin**  
President & CEO  
**Authenticity**

"I must model authenticity in my actions and my communication with others. Transparency will be a priority at all levels, even when sharing difficult news."



**Carol Hathorn**  
Scheduling Supervisor  
**Patience**

"Our lives are built around a 'right now' society. Everything must be 'right now' which makes it challenging to be patient. My challenge to myself in 2025 is to practice 'patience' in my life at home and work."



**Heath Morris**  
Purchasing Supervisor  
**Optimization**

"Optimization encapsulates the idea of streamlining processes, managing cost, improving efficiency, and making strategic decisions-all of which are crucial in purchasing for a manufacturer."



**Ioana Bobina**  
Blast Chiller Operations Director  
**Imagination**

"In a team setting, imagination encourages brainstorming and collaboration, uniting diverse perspectives to achieve impactful results."



# KOOL INNOVATIONS AND WARM CONNECTIONS

## THERMO-KOOL AT NAFEM 2025



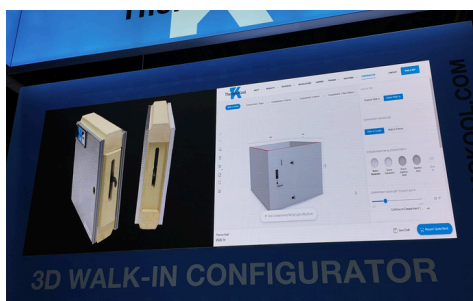
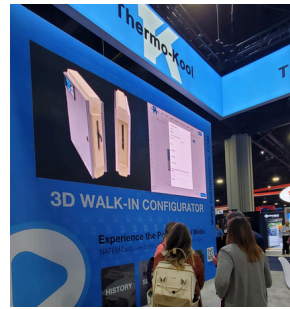
By: Lisa Hinton

What a whirlwind NAFEM 2025 turned out to be! Each day at our booth was uniquely **themed** to show how we streamline the walk-in experience, and we had a blast sharing our latest innovations. Attendees were excited to try our industry-first **3D Walk-In Configurator**, designing custom coolers and freezers on the fly – even using augmented reality to visualize a walk-in right in their space. We also demoed the **TK Tracker**, our order tracking tool that lets you follow your **Thermo-Kool** walk-in from production to delivery in real-time. Many visitors were intrigued by the handy **BlueZone ROI Calculator**, which quickly shows how adding BlueZone® technology can extend food freshness and pay for itself.



The best part of NAFEM 2025, however, was the people. We want to extend a heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who stopped by our booth – your time is valuable, and we're truly grateful you spent some of it with us. Whether you popped in to try out the configurator, see the tracker in action, or just say hello, we cherished every conversation. There's nothing quite like spending time with friends, colleagues, and industry professionals face-to-face. Those moments of connection reminded us that behind every kool innovation, it's the warm relationships and shared passion that really drive us. We take immense pride and care in every **Thermo-Kool** walk-in we build, and hearing your feedback and excitement reinforced why we love what we do.

As we reflect on our time at the show, we find our hearts full and our smiles big. We wish everyone well on their ongoing foodservice journey – may your kitchens stay efficient and your coolers always full of good food and good memories. Thank you for being part of our NAFEM experience. We're already looking forward to the next one and can't wait to see you again at **NAFEM 2027 in Orlando, Florida!**





# IN THE NEWS

## THE CHILI GAUNTLET: TEAM KOOL BEANS TAKES ON THE HEAT!

In the heart of downtown Laurel, where the air was thick with the scent of simmering spices and fierce competition, Team Kool Beans stepped onto the battlefield of the Magnolia State Bank Chili Cook-Off on February 8th. Armed with ladles, a fearless spirit, and a not-so-secret ingredient (yes, we're looking at you, chocolate), our team took on the challenge with one mission: to create the KOOLest chili in town!

But this wasn't just about the rivalry of chili masters. Sure, the competition was intense, and the bragging rights were tempting, but at the end of the day, it was about something greater—supporting a worthy cause, strengthening our community, and spending time with our **Thermo-Kool** family. As visitors stopped by our tent, they were met with bold flavors, good company, and a chili experience they wouldn't forget. And judging by the reactions, that touch of chocolatey magic was a game-changer!

While the cook-off ended with one team taking home the trophy, the real winners were the community and the organizations this event supports. Team Kool Beans was proud to be a part of it, and we're already gearing up for the next battle. Until then, we'll be fine-tuning our chili game—because at **Thermo-Kool**, we believe in keeping things hot... and KOOL.



## WELCOME TO THE WORLD, ADDERSON RAE!

**Thermo-Kool** is thrilled to share the wonderful news of a new addition to the Harrison family!

**Will** and **Kass Harrison** welcomed their sweet baby boy, **Adderson Rae Harrison**, on February 10, 2025. Weighing **5 lbs 4 oz** and measuring **19 inches long**, Adderson has already brought so much love and joy into the world.

We also want to extend a special congratulations to **Melissa Harrison**, our **Inside Sales Manager**, who is now a very proud grandmother! This exciting new chapter brings even more warmth to the Thermo-Kool family, and we couldn't be happier for them all.

Please join us in celebrating this precious little guy and wishing the Harrison family endless love, laughter, and sweet baby snuggles!