

**HOLIDAY NOTICE**  
THERMO-KOOL's offices and factory will be closed Monday, September 4th, for the Labor Day Holiday.



★★★★★

## EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



**CURVIN HAYNES**  
MACHINE OPERATOR,  
GASKET DEPARTMENT

**Thermo-Kool** Machine Operator, Gasket Department – **Curvin Haynes** was selected Employee of the Month for May 2023. Curvin was nominated by **Thermo-Kool** Plant Superintendent, Wade Adkins, who commented, “Curvin has done a great job helping out in the Foam Press when attendance is low. He never complains and will do anything asked of him. He has a high motor and a positive, up-beat attitude that is second to none. He comes in every day with a smile on his face, and I am so thankful to have him as part of our team.” Curvin has been with **Thermo-Kool** since May 2019.



**MICHAELA AMAYA**  
RECEPTIONIST,  
SALES DEPARTMENT

**Thermo-Kool** Receptionist, Sales Department – **Michaela Amaya** was selected Employee of the Month for June 2023. Michaela was nominated by **Thermo-Kool** Inside Sales Manager, **Melissa Harrison**, who commented, “Michaela has been assisting at the factory office while we’ve been shorthanded. She is always willing to help where needed and excels with the tasks she is given. She keeps a positive attitude, and I’ve received numerous compliments from our reps and customers on how she presents herself on the phones.” Michaela has been with **Thermo-Kool** since November 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.*



**Ioana Bobina**  
Blast Chiller Operations Director  
**Tenacious**

*“Tenacity is what moves us to action. I want to be the kind of person who never gives up and never stops trying, someone who does whatever is required to accomplish a goal in both personal and professional life.”*



**Donnie Carpenter**  
Manufacturing Support Manager  
**Versatile**

*“In the coming year, with all the hurdles that we will face, I think it is important that we are versatile to handle all the challenges that may come.”*



**Shelby Bunkheila**  
Production Supervisor  
**Brave**

*“When you feel weak, be brave. When you find risk, be brave. Only bravery can make you strong.”*



**Wade Adkins**  
Plant Superintendent  
**Improvement**

*“Improvement will allow me and other team members to develop competence, to make meaningful impacts, and to show growth in deficit areas, which will help create a more productive work environment and a better product.”*



# GOING GREEN WITH R448 REFRIGERATION



By: Lisa Hinton

As the Black Eyed Peas famously sang, “We’ve only got one world,” to which they continued to repeat multiple times toward the end of the song, “Where Is the Love.” This Millenium band was certainly not the first to pen songs about saving the Earth. Many before them, such as Johnny Cash’s “Don’t Go Near the Water,” Paul McCartney’s “Despite Repeated Warnings,” Cat Stevens’ “Where Do the Children Play?”, and countless others spoke of a world where the environment is neglected and the future we’re left with is not one anyone wants to inherit.

It’s easy to dismiss songs like this. It’s easier to say there’s nothing one person can do to protect the environment, or easier still to disregard our planet’s deterioration by claiming such things as global warming isn’t real. Whatever you choose to believe, the fact still remains; it is up to each and every one of us to take care of the world we live in. And while that may seem like a difficult task, saving the world can be as easy as making a switch in your commercial kitchen.

Thermo-Kool Blast Chillers and Shock Freezers are making the change to better our future by switching to R448a refrigerant. But what is R448a refrigerant, and how does the environment benefit from it? Let’s take a look!



R448a, also known as Solstice® N40, is an HFO blend refrigerant developed by Honeywell® as a replacement for R-22 and R-404a.



It is made up of a 5-part zeotropic blend, made using a combination of hydrofluorocarbon and hydrofluoroolefin constituents at the following concentrations: R-32(26%), R-125(26%), R-134a(21%), R-1234ze(7%), and R-1234yf(20%). Of the HFO blends, R448a boasts the lowest Global Warming Potential (GWP), with only a potential of 1320 (a huge decrease from R-404a, which has a GWP of 3922) and a COP rating between 2.5 and 2.63.

I don’t know about you, but I haven’t seen that many numbers and letters hanging out together since Algebra 1. So, to put it simply, R448a is less for more. It has less of an impact on the environment by keeping its GWP low while providing you with more performance at a lower energy cost. This means that, not only are you helping create a more eco-friendly space, but you’re saving money on energy that could be spent on other aspects of your business.



Finally, a victory for nature and humankind.

So, while “the ice we skate is getting pretty thin, the water’s getting warm” as the band Smash Mouth famously sang in, “All Stars,” the world’s not yet on fire, and with small improvements like R448a, we can keep our planet cool and the place we all live beautiful and safe for centuries to come. Afterall, we really do only have one world... at least until that whole ‘terraforming Mars’ thing pans out in a couple of million years.

To learn more about the EPA’s mandatory phase-out from R-404a (and similar refrigerants) to R448a, visit our website at [www.thermokool.com](http://www.thermokool.com) and learn how your facility can become compliant before January 1, 2024.

## OUR GRADUATES



**Name:** Olivia Adkins  
**Age:** 22  
**TK Parent:** Wade Adkins  
**Short Bio:** Olivia graduated from Mississippi State University with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education. Beginning fall of 2023, Olivia plans to begin graduate school at Mississippi State University to pursue her master’s degree in elementary education.



**Name:** Raine Harrison  
**Age:** 20  
**TK Parent:** Melissa Harrison  
**Short Bio:** Raine graduated from Jones Junior College where she received her associate degree in arts. She plans to continue her education in public relations and multiple languages, as she enjoys working with people of all different backgrounds and learning about them. Currently, Raine is employed here at Thermo-Kool as our factory receptionist.



**Name:** Alexz Carpenter  
**Age:** 22  
**TK Parent:** Donnie Carpenter  
**Short Bio:** Alexz graduated from the University of Mississippi with honors with a bachelor’s degree in biology. She will continue her education by attending the University of Colorado School of Medicine this fall to earn her MPH in community and behavioral health. Currently, she is undecided as to which med school she will be attending.



**Name:** Gavin Whitehead  
**Age:** 20  
**TK Parent:** David Whitehead  
**Short Bio:** Gavin graduated from Pearl River Community College with an associate degree in industrial management. He plans to further his education at the University of South Alabama to receive his masters in the same field. Currently, Gavin is employed here at Thermo-Kool as a production supervisor trainee.