



**MUFES**  
**AGENDA**

**Mon., Jan. 29**

8 a.m.-3 p.m. Golf outing or Everglades Tour  
**Sponsored by California Foodservice Instant Rebates**  
Shuttle bus to the Plantation Preserve Golf Club departs at 8 a.m.  
Bus for Everglades tour departs at 9 a.m.

4-9 p.m. Registration  
*Promenade Ballroom*

6:30-8:30 p.m. Opening dinner reception at the pool **sponsored by Amerikooler**  
*Beachside Pool Deck*

**Tues., Jan. 30**

7 a.m.-12 p.m. Registration  
*Promenade Ballroom*

7-8:15 a.m. Breakfast **co-sponsored by Ali Group: Ice-O-Matic and The Wasserstrom Co.**  
*Beachside Pool Deck*

8:15-8:30 a.m. **Opening remarks**—Randy Hano, president/publisher, FER  
*Promenade Ballroom*

8:30-9:30 a.m. **2024 State of the Industry**—David Henkes, senior principal and head of strategic partnerships, Technomic  
*Promenade Ballroom*

9:30-10:30 a.m. **Designing an Optimized, Code-Compliant, Kitchen Ventilation System**—Richard Young, director, Frontier Energy and the Food Service Technology Center  
*Promenade Ballroom*

10:30-11 a.m. Break & Networking **sponsored by Continental Refrigerator**  
*Promenade Ballroom*

11 a.m.-12 p.m. **Real-Life Experiences Designing Ventless Kitchens**—Tarah Schroeder, vice president, Ricca Design Studios  
*Promenade Ballroom*

12-1:30 p.m. Lunch & Networking **sponsored by Welbilt: Frymaster and Merco**  
*Marina Terrace*

1:30-2:30 p.m. **Deep Dive Into Foodservice Packaging Recovery**—Natha Dempsey, president, Foodservice Packaging Institute  
*Promenade Ballroom*

2:30-3 p.m. Break & Networking **sponsored by T&S Brass**  
*Promenade Ballroom*

- 3-4 p.m. *Promenade Ballroom* **Bytes & Bites: Navigating the Digital Revolution—Trends, Design, BOH Innovations, and Equipment Insights**—Confirmed panelists: Rob Seely, executive director, operations strategy, WD Partners; Michelle Walsh, director of store design, formats and lifecycle programs, Wawa; Scott Warrington, director of engineering and innovation, Panera Bread  
Moderator: Joanne Heyob, senior vice president of operations strategy and design, WD Partners
- 5:45-6:45 p.m. *Hotel Lobby and Water Taxi* Evening Cocktail Reception **sponsored by ITW Food Equipment Group**  
Meet in Hotel Lobby at 5:30-5:45 p.m. to walk over to Water Taxi Stop #5, 1001 Seabreeze Blvd., a block from the hotel. We will be departing at 5:50 p.m. to Water Taxi Stop #2. Drop-off will be at approximately 6:45 p.m. at Water Taxi Stop #2, 904 E. Las Olas Blvd., at the end of SE 9th Ave. Cocktails will be served.
- 6:45 p.m. Free evening
- 8:30 p.m. There will be a return trip on the Water Taxi from Stop #2 to Stop #5.
- Wed., Jan. 31**
- 7:45-9:15 a.m. *Marina Terrace* Breakfast **sponsored by Ali Group: ACP, Beverage-Air, Eloma, Metro, Scotsman Ice Systems and Victory**
- 9:15-9:30 a.m. *Promenade Ballroom* **Opening remarks**—Randy Hano, president/publisher, FER
- 9:30-11 a.m. *Promenade Ballroom* **How Artificial Intelligence Impacts Foodservice**—Confirmed panelists: Glenn Loughridge, director of campus dining and concessions, Auburn University; Nadine Rodriguez, director of supply chain, Noodles & Co.; Lee Baker, vice president – product management, RATIONAL USA; Nick Patterson, senior vice president of technology, Welbilt  
Moderator: Pika Patel, global business development manager, UL Solutions
- 11-11:30 a.m. *Promenade Ballroom* Break & Networking **sponsored by Frontline Int'l.**
- 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. *Promenade Ballroom* **How to Efficiently Grow Unit Count**—Confirmed panelists: Adam Jarboe, equipment/smallwares sourcing, supply chain, Chick-fil-A; Don Roberts, vice president of architecture and design, Dine Brands Global; Rodney Taylor, vice president of construction, Jersey Mike's Franchise Systems; Tiffany Vassos, vice president of design and construction, Dave's Hot Chicken  
Moderator: Allison Rezendes, chief content officer, FER
- 12:30-2 p.m. *Marina Terrace* Lunch & Networking **sponsored by Polar Leasing and Thermodyne**
- 2-3 p.m. *Promenade Ballroom* **Overcoming Obstacles in Equipment Maintenance**—Dan Reese, director of training, CFESA
- 3-3:30 p.m. *Promenade Ballroom* Break & Networking **co-sponsored by Edward Don & Company and Nemco Food Equipment**

3:30-4:30 p.m. **Myths About Going Electric**—David Zabrowski, vice president, Frontier Energy  
*Promenade Ballroom* and the Food Service Technology Center

6-8 p.m. Closing Reception on the beach **sponsored by Specifi**  
*Private Beach*

**Thank you to our sponsors:**

*Ali Group: ACP, Beverage-Air, Eloma, Metro, Scotsman Ice Systems and Victory*

*Amerikooler*

*Atosa USA*

*California Foodservice Instant Rebates*

*Continental Refrigerator*

*Edward Don & Company*

*Frontline Int'l.*

*Welbilt: Frymaster & Merco*

*Hoshizaki America*

*Ali Group: Ice-O-Matic*

*ITW Food Equipment Group*

*Nemco Food Equipment*

*Polar Leasing*

*RATIONAL USA*

*Specifi LLC*

*T&S Brass*

*Thermodyne Foodservice Products*

*The Wasserstrom Co.*

*Thank you to NAFEM for underwriting operator attendance.*