

● **CoffeeCon sets 2018 dates.** The consumer coffee festival—featuring coffee tasting, hands-on gear demonstrations and classes on in-home preparation—heads to Los Angeles Feb. 3–4; New York April 7–8; Seattle July 28–29; and Chicago Oct. 27–28. Find out more at [coffee-con.com](http://coffee-con.com).

● **Sustainability Consortium releases coffee product sustainability toolkit.** The toolkit translates sustainability science into business tools to create more sustainable consumer products. The free, publicly available tools include a sustainability profile, identifying environmental and social improvement opportunities, key performance indicators and more. Download the tools at [sustainabilityconsortium.org](http://sustainabilityconsortium.org).

● **Shick Solutions + Esteve Process = Shick Esteve.** The merger will allow the U.S.- and France-based ingredient process automation companies to serve the industry with a broader reach of resources and additional technologies from a network of global service centers. Learn more at [shickesteve.com](http://shickesteve.com).

● **Burundi's JNP Coffee expands to trading.** With a recent investment in more than 20 washing stations in northern Burundi's high-altitude cities of Kayanza and Ngozi, the company now produces and trades single-source specialty coffee beans from women-owned farms across the east African nation. Learn more at [jnpcoffee.com](http://jnpcoffee.com).

● **New platform to streamline supply chain.** Colorado-based *bext360* recently unveiled *bext* machine, a platform that evaluates coffee cherries and beans and divides them into grades based on quality. Coffee farmers have access to a mobile app to view amounts of each grade and accept offers for payment. All parties involved in the transaction can access the data transparently, and farmers can be paid in real time. The platform also enables the collection of other key data. Learn more at [bext360.com](http://bext360.com).

● **Bio-bean debuts Coffee Logs.** Coffee grounds from major chains such as Costa and Café Nero are collected and recycled to create the heating logs, designed for stoves, open fires and chimineas. Each log burns for more than an hour, and they're clean to handle and easy to ignite. Find out more at [bio-bean.com](http://bio-bean.com).

● **1951 Coffee Company awarded Starbucks Foundation grant.** The nonprofit specialty coffee organization received a \$63,000 "Opportunity for All" grant to expand its barista training program. Based in Berkeley, California, 1951 Coffee was one of 41 nonprofits selected, all supporting job skills training and career readiness for youth, veterans and military spouses, and/or refugees. Find out more at [1951coffee.com](http://1951coffee.com).

● **World Coffee Research Lexicon 2.0 now available.** An updated version of the flavor reference standards includes 24 new reference points developed by UK-based FlavorActiv. In

conjunction with the re-release, FlavorActiv, Vermont-based Coffee Enterprises and London's Square Mile Coffee Roasters co-developed pharmaceutical-grade flavor capsules for the new reference points. World Coffee Research has cross-checked each of the references to align with the expanded lexicon. Learn more at [worldcoffeeresearch.org](http://worldcoffeeresearch.org).

● **Origin Approach conference set for February.** Specialty coffee sourcing company Nordic Approach is presenting the conference in Terrazu, Costa Rica, Feb. 11–15. With lectures, cuppings, networking opportunities and more, the conference is designed to bring together all segments of the supply chain. Find more details at [originapproach.com](http://originapproach.com).

● **Coffee Enterprises consolidates services under one name.** All business, technical and consulting services of the Vermont-based company—including Coffee Ed, Coffee Analysts, and Tea Analysis—now go by the Coffee Enterprises name. Learn more at [coffeeenterprises.com](http://coffeeenterprises.com).

● **Melitta USA roasting plant goes solar.** The installation of solar panels at the brand's state-of-the-art coffee roasting facility in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, will help increase energy efficiency at the 100,000 square-foot plant, which roasts all coffee for Melitta's North American needs. Visit [melitta.com](http://melitta.com) to learn more.

● **Chaln-Vey's high-efficiency pucks reduce energy.** The pucks are designed for use in energy-efficient tubular conveyor systems. The improved operating dimensions are ideal for conveying abrasive product such as green coffee, seed hulls, calcium carbonate, and other chemicals and minerals, reducing noise, amperage and total system wear. Find full specs at [mpechicago.com](http://mpechicago.com).

● **Pre-order app serves independent coffee shops in British Columbia.** Jojo allows customers to pre-order coffee and other items from independent cafes near Vancouver using a pre-paid "wallet." Learn more at [orderjojo.com](http://orderjojo.com).

● **Alpha Dominche now U.S. distributor of Dalla Corte machines.** The Brooklyn, New York-based manufacturer of the Steampunk and Sight brewing systems has partnered with the Italian equipment manufacturer to become the U.S. distributor of its coffee machines and grinders. Find more details online at [alphadominche.com](http://alphadominche.com).

● **Volcafe introduces new blend from female producers.** Sourced entirely from female coffee farmers in Guatemala, the blend is called "La Morena," a nod to its sweet taste (azucar morena is Spanish for brown sugar). Find it through Genuine Origin at [genuineorigin.com](http://genuineorigin.com).

● **New coffee in Swiss Water small-batch series.** The line features limited offerings of hyper-seasonal, highly traceable