



# POST HARVEST

In This Issue

[Passing the Torch](#)

[Quick Links](#)

[Post Harvest Archives](#)  
[CTI Website](#)

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Special Edition

February 22, 2008

Bruce Humphrys retired from Compatible Technology International on February 15, 2008. We asked him to write a few words reflecting on his experience at CTI.

Rod Brown, our new Executive Director and CEO, also shares his thoughts as he takes over the reins.

## Passing the Torch

by Bruce L. Humphrys, Retired Executive Director

I have been encouraged to say a little about my career and post-retirement activities. In 1970 I joined what was then the Minnesota Society for Crippled Children and Adults (later renamed Courage Center) as a fund raiser. Seeing the benefits of technology applications for persons with severe disabilities, I formed the Department of Rehabilitation Technology. In 1990 I left Courage Center to become the executive director of the Institute for Minnesota Archaeology and, later, Senior Outreach Services. In 1996 I joined Loaves and Fishes Too as their executive director, leaving in 2001 to develop the Division of Leadership Giving in the Workplace for the Greater Twin Cities United Way before coming to CTI in 2003.

Five years ago this small organization called "Compatible Technology International" was poised for greatness. Great minds had called it into existence 20 years before; dedicated volunteers had generated the energy to nurture projects and technologies; clever solutions to problems of food processing were designed; and a loyal corps of donors anchored the effort.

But, some crucial elements had to be taken care of before that greatness could be fully realized. Structure had to be introduced. Strategic planning had to take place. Diversification and strengthening of the funding base was necessary. Creating a mind-set of "can-do, let's do!" loomed important. Sharing information, progress, and barriers across geographical and technical boundaries was key. Pulling together toward central goals was paramount.

"It's like trying to herd cats" was a phrase I heard often!

I am pleased to report that, with great effort, commitment, and work on everyone's part those elements have been addressed. Our funding base has tripled. We have received the highest rating from the Charities Review Council. We have dramatically increased our research and development capability in a new facility. Our public outreach has achieved new heights both through personal presentations but also through an impressive presence on the World Wide Web. Ever increasingly we are sought out by other organizations and businesses for solutions. This organization, passing its quarter-century mark, is now ready - eager - to be much more impactful in alleviating poverty and hunger. Under the leadership of Rodney Brown, CTI is entering into a new and greatly expanded phase of leadership in post harvest processing.

Congratulations to all the loyal CTI donors, volunteers, and staff who have - together - prepared this organization for the greatness it, and the world, deserves.

Now as I retire, I will be enjoying "enhanced flexibility" with theater performances, volunteering with a number of community organizations, and continuing my sailing adventures as a licensed charter captain. Thank you all for this wonderful journey of service.

## Receiving the Torch

By Rodney A. Brown

As I sit here in Kumasa, Ghana preparing for our next CTI Moringa presentation to an audience of 200 farmers I am awed at the potential for the next stage of CTI's growth. Dick Fulmer, Ed Galle (dedicated CTI volunteers and board members) and I gave a similar presentation yesterday to the Moringa Association of Ghana, Ghana Food Research Institute and the leader of the Moringa movement, Lowell Fuglie.

The reception was more than what we could have hoped for and the enthusiasm and interest in and for both our current products and the new direction of CTI (being dubbed CTI 2.0) "resonated with my soul" as one participant stated. Many others said this is exactly what they need and expressed overwhelming desire to be a CTI 2.0 pilot country.

What I'm hearing in Ghana is very similar to what Bert Rivers, several CTI volunteers and I heard in early February when Ines Garcia visited from Nicaragua. Ines took out a loan to visit CTI's headquarters and to seek our assistance in activating 15 CTI chlorinators for his community of 3200. After hearing the CTI 2.0 vision, he stated, "the vision feeds my soul". Those of us representing CTI were extremely humbled by this man's dedication and hard work and the hope that was generated in our meeting.

So now the challenge is on for all of us to step up to the plate and turn the hope into reality by executing our plan with compassion, quality and equal dedication. I'm pleased that Bruce has established the framework that will catapult our growth and look forward to impacting more and more lives around the world.

Stay tuned as more details of the new CTI 2.0 plan unfolds.

**CTI Staff**

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